Hafa Adai!

Generator, batteries stolen from Docomo cell site. **PAGE 2**

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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 156

www.saipantribune.com | **THURSDAY** AUGUST 8, 2019 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

Tourist shoots self

Photo shows the Bing Beng Bang Shooting Range on Palm Street in western Garapan, where a 22-year-old Chinese male tourist reportedly fatally shot himself Tuesday night.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A 22-year-old Chinese tourist shot a few rounds of a handgun at a shooting range in western Garapan before fatally shooting himself Tuesday night.

The tourist, whose identity is being withheld at the moment, was pronounced dead by Commonwealth Health Center's Dr. Martin Rohringer at 9:03pm, with the cause of death being a gunshot wound.

Police investigators confirmed that the victim died of a

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IPI preliminary injunction denied

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has denied the petition of the Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC and its two subsidiaries for a preliminary injunction to prohibit the Commonwealth Casino Commission from releasing IPI's audited financial statements.

» **IPI appeals to Ninth Circuit**

Soon after Manglona issued the decision, Viola Alepuyo, IPI legal counsel and special projects senior vice president, said they are

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'The people won'

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Propst

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), whose request to see the financial statements of casino licensee Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC precipitated the legal tussle between IPI and the Commonwealth Casino Commission, is "ecstatic, elated, and happy" that the U.S. District Court for the CNMI has ruled in favor of the CCC and denied IPI's bid to prevent the release of the information.

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REMAKING GARAPAN

'It's so sad at night'

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Third part of a series

After 19 years of working in Garapan, Julie Arellano feels sad when she looks out the glass windows of Furusato, where she works, and sees what has become of what should be the bustling heart of Saipan.

Shuttered windows, abandoned buildings, a Paseo de Marianas that sits mostly empty—Arellano said that Garapan is supposed to be the premiere place on Saipan but she has seen it deteriorate over the years.

"I started work here in 1991 and I experienced Garapan when it was bustling with

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INSIDE

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Digital Saipan is set to launch next month Saipan's version of Uber and Grab, Island Ride.
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Local

Generator, batteries stolen from Docomo cell site

A thief or group of thieves stole a generator and batteries from a Docomo cell site on Capital Hill last Thursday.

Department of Public Safety officers were sent to the site last Aug. 1, 2019, at about 11:37am, in response to a 911 call reporting a burglary and theft incident at the cell site.

Officers arrived at about 11:58am and met with two Docomo employees, who led officers into Docomo's small storage room at the site. Officers noted that the main door into the room appeared to have been forced open, based on the visible scratch marks and paint chips. Among the items missing were one black-and-red 7,500-kilowatt Briggs and Stratton generator and eight 12-volt red and white North Star batteries.

The officers learned that a security company in Guam received an activated door alarm at the cell site at about 7:45am and called a designated representative on Saipan. At about 9am, the two individuals, who were at another site at that time, received a call about the activated door alarm at the cell site. The two then went to Capital Hill at about 11:30am. After a quick inspection of the site, they called 911 for police assistance.

If you have any information related to this burglary and theft incident, call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Photo shows the same type of North Star batteries that were stolen from the Docomo cell site on Capital Hill.

OPD estimates CEDS projects to cost $1.4B

An updated development strategy for the CNMI—which outlines all the projects that needs to be implemented in the CNMI as part of its economic development priorities—is composed of 201 projects, with a price tag of $1.4 billion, according to NMI Office of Planning and Development director Kodep Ogumoro-Uludong.

In his presentation on the updated Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the CNMI as guest speaker at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's membership meeting yesterday at the Kanoa Resort's Seaside Hall, Ogumoro-Uludong said those projects include rebuilding the Northern Marianas College, the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, the water filtration system at Isley Field, and the Oleai Sport Complex.

He said that his office, in partnership with the Department of Commerce, was tasked by the U.S. Economic Development Administration to develop the updated CEDS—a five-year plan that identifies all the different economic development priorities of each state. All U.S. states and jurisdictions were mandated to put together their respective CEDS and submit them to the U.S. Department of Commerce's EDA.

Ogomuro-Uludong

He said that, in light of Super Typhoon Yutu, EDA sent members from their engineering department last December to inform the OPD that they must update the CEDS so that they can incorporate all the projects for economic recovery.

He said the federal resources that can provide support to the CNMI are the Federal Emergency Management Agency, EDA, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

He said his office worked with the mayors of Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands to update the CEDS and submitted it to EDA last April. OPD was able to gather 600 comments from the community on what their ideas for economic recovery priorities were.

"We worked with all the general agencies, businesses, and the non-profit organizations to give us a general cost estimate," Ogumoro-Uludong said.

That included the Bureau of Environmental Coastal Equality, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Department of Commerce, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Department of Public Lands, the Department of Public Works, Marianas Visitors Authority, the offices of the mayors of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands, Zoning Office, Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and the Saipan Economic Development Council. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS registration ongoing

Marianas High School registration is ongoing for new and returning students. Note that even if your child is a returning student, you are still required to submit a new registration for the new school year. Last day for registration will be on Aug. 15, 2019. Schedules will not be provided until registrations are submitted. Office hours are Monday-Friday, 8am-12pm and 1pm-4pm.MHS is closed on austerity Fridays.

Orientation for freshmen and new transfer students will be on Aug. 29, 9am-11am, at the MHS cafeteria. Agenda will include distribution of schedules, picture taking for photo ID, a school club mini-fair, and a campus tour.

Orientation for sophomores, juniors, and seniors will be on Aug. 30, 9am-11am, at the MHS cafeteria. Agenda will include distribution of schedules, a school club mini-fair, and photo ID. ***(PR)***

MLSC probate workshop on Thursday

The Marianas Office of Micronesian Legal Services Corp. will be presenting the seventh—and the last—in a series of probate workshops on Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019, at 3pm at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library. The topic is wills (the different kinds, how to make one, etc.). The workshop is free and open to the public. ***(PR)***

Calling student writers in the CNMI

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library is hosting a Student Writers Mystery Adventure on Saturday, Aug. 10, 2019 from 1pm to 4pm. It's free and open to all students of any age. The focus is on talking about, planning, and writing mysteries. Also prizes. ***(PR)***

Open house at Saipan airport

The Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport will be holding an open house meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019, from 6pm to 8pm, at the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Building located at 1 Fadang at the Saipan airport. The open house will discuss the ongoing airport master plan study. The consultant team will also be available to answer questions.

Should you require additional information, contact Wendi L. Prater, executive assistant/project manager, or Saipan airport manager William Camacho at (670) 237-6500. ***(PR)***

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TS Krosa moves away from region

» Flood, high surf, small craft advisories still in effect until Friday

Topical Depression 11W has intensified into a tropical storm overnight and is now known as Tropical Storm Krosa but poses no threat to the Marianas.

The good news, according to the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, is that Krosa's heaviest showers and thunderstorms are shifting gradually to the northwest, allowing drier weather to build over the Marianas.

Nonetheless, the tropical storm's slow trek away from the Marianas continues and clouds, showers, gusty winds, hazardous seas, and surf remained over the CNMI and Guam yesterday.

In fact, NWS said the Marianas received in excess of 2 inches of rain yesterday, with the Weather Forecast Office in Tiyan getting nearly 11 inches of rain over the last five days.

At 1 pm yesterday, Krosa was located by satellite near 20.9n 141.4e with sustained winds of 65 mph and moving north-northwest at 13 mph. This is about 365 miles northwest of Alamagan, 340 miles northwest of Pagan, 315 miles west-northwest of Agrihan, and 490 miles northwest of Saipan.

Current forecast calls for scattered showers, isolated thunderstorms, and periods of light rain over the Marianas and NWS is advising the public to continue to keep their umbrellas ready.

With the rough weather persisting over the region, the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management issued yet another set of flood, high surf, and small craft advisories yesterday.

Heavy showers associated with southwest monsoon winds from Krosa may produce flash floods, according to HSEM.

Residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are being advised that flash flooding can become life-threatening very quickly. Residents are also told to monitor conditions in their area and keep up to date with the latest forecasts and be prepared to take action if flash flood warnings are issued.

HSEM also said a high surf advisory remains in effect through Friday night, as surf will remain at hazardous levels of 10 to 13 feet along west-facing reefs through Thursday. The agency said surf will start to diminish Thursday night, but should remain hazardous through at least Friday night.

HSEM also noted that high surf will produce localized beach erosion and dangerous conditions for swimmers and beachgoers.

Avoid venturing out along south- and west-facing reefs and beaches. Large breaking waves can knock you down and cause serious injuries, and strong rip currents will be life-threatening.

The small craft advisory remains in effect through Friday night as wind speeds of 22 knots or higher and seas 10 feet or higher are expected to produce conditions hazardous to small craft. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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IPI

From Page 1

reviewing the court order and discussing with IPI what options it would prefer to pursue.

Later yesterday afternoon, IPI, through counsel Kelley Butcher, informed the District Court that IPI is appealing Manglona's decision to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

In a 25-page decision on Tuesday, Manglona ruled that IPI and its subsidiaries—Grand Marianas (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties LLC—have not met their burden for a preliminary injunction.

Manglona, however, declined to address at this time the motion to return IPI's lawsuit against CCC to the Superior Court, which was filed by IPI and its subsidiaries, as the issues of abstention and supplemental jurisdiction raised in the motion will be further briefed and argued.

"They have not shown that irreparable harm is likely without an injunction, that the balance of equities tips in their favor, or that an injunction is in the public interest," the judge said.

Manglona said IPI's subsidiaries have demonstrated that there are serious questions going to the merits, but without "a hardship balance that tips sharply toward [IPI]," a preliminary injunction for their benefit is not warranted.

Manglona said IPI has not even made a threshold showing that serious questions exist, let alone that they are likely to succeed on the merits.

The judge said this case requires her to reconcile laws that protect two important public interests: the public's interest in an open government that transacts business in the light of day, and the interest of individuals and companies in preventing the unnecessary disclosure of their private, confidential information that the CNMI government comes to possess.

IPI and its subsidiaries have asked the federal court to prevent the disclosure of unredacted financial statements because, in their view, those statements contain confidential information protected from disclosure by provisions in the CNMI tax code and the Open Government Act, and by guarantees of privacy in the U.S. and Commonwealth constitutions.

In order to obtain such protection, IPI filed a petition for preliminary injunction prohibiting CCC from releasing the unredacted financial statements while the case is pending.

According to court records, the dispute arises from the Open Government Act request filed by Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) with CCC on June 13, 2019. He asked for information relating to the 2017 and 2018 audit reports prepared by Ernst & Young for IPI/Best Sunshine; all business gross revenue tax payments made by IPI/Best Sunshine to date, with amounts and date; and all corporate income taxes paid by IPI/Best Sunshine.

CCC notified IPI of the request and asked IPI to respond. IPI objected to the release of its tax information.

Assistant attorney general Michael Ernest later told IPI that CCC intended to release the information on June 24, 2019 over its objections. That same day, June 24, IPI filed a petition for temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction, as well as a petition for injunctive relief and complaint for declaratory relief at the Superior Court, asking that CCC and its executive director, Edward Deleon Guerrero, be stopped from releasing IPI's tax information.

All parties agreed to the intervention of IPI's subsidiaries, Grand Marianas (CNMI) LLC and Imperial Pacific Properties LLC, but limited the scope of their argument to the disclosure of their own information only.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo initially granted the TRO last June 24, then extended it to July 25. Govendo also held several days of hearings on the petition.

Last July 23, CCC and Deleon Guerrero moved the case to the federal court. Manglona extended the TRO to Aug. 2 and set a hearing on the preliminary injunction.

The parties agreed that the scope of a preliminary injunction should be limited to the release of unredacted consolidated financial statements from 2015, 2015/2016, and 2016/2017.

IPI's subsidiaries argue that protection should apply to the 2017/18 financial statement as well.

The 2017/2018 financial statement has already been released under unclear circumstances.

Manglona had a hearing on the petition for preliminary injunction last July 30 and Aug. 1, then extended the TRO to today, Thursday, at 11:59pm.

In her order denying the petition, Manglona said a preliminary injunction can be granted only if the party requesting it can establish that it is likely to win the case on the merits, it will suffer irreparable harm if the court does not grant the injunction, the balance of equities between the parties tips in its favor, and an injunction is in the public interest.

The judge said that IPI and its subsidiaries have not demonstrated that a preliminary injunction is warranted under this test.

IPI and its subsidiaries argue that the disclosure of their information is prohibited by the CNMI tax code and the Open Government Act.

CCC contends that the disclosure is required under the Gaming Act at 4 CMC Section 2314.

Manglona said the purpose of Section 2314 is to strip the casino licensees' audited annual financial statements of confidentiality and guarantee that they be available for public inspection.

Conversely, Manglona said, the sections from the tax code and OGA are aimed at protecting tax information from wrongful disclosure and public inspection.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

TOURIST

From Page 1

self-inflicted gunshot wound, according to Department of Public Safety spokesman Adrian Pangelinan yesterday.

Pangelinan did not indicate in his report which part of the body the wound was located.

Saipan Tribune learned that the incident happened at the Bing Beng Bang Shooting Range, which is located across the Micro Beach Hotel along Palm Street corner Corral Tree Avenue. Both the shooting range and the hotel are owned by businessman Ta Bun Kuy.

Police investigation showed that the victim entered Bing Beng Bang Shooting Range at 8pm and reviewed and signed the company's waiver form.

The range master accompanied the victim to the range, where he shot a few rounds. The police report indicated that the victim then ran down the range and fired his gun. That's when the range master called 911. It is presumed that that's when the victim shot himself.

DPS received the 911 call at 8:06pm, with the caller stating that a man had shot himself at the Bing Beng Bang Shooting Range. Police officers were sent to the scene, where the caller brought them to the shooting range. Officers found the victim lying on the floor with a gunshot wound. The handgun was found beside the victim.

*Saipan Tribun*e went to the shooting range late yesterday afternoon and learned that the range had been temporarily closed.

In November 2009, an employee of a shooting range in Kannat Tabla opened fired at the range, killing four persons, including two minors.

The gunman, a Chinese national, then drove a van to the Last Command Post in Marpi, where he opened fire with a rifle at a group of Korean tourists, wounding five. He proceeded to Banzai Cliff, set the van on fire, then fatally shot himself.

PEOPLE

From Page 1

Calling it a win for the people and the Open Government Act, Propst told *Saipan Tribune* in a statement yesterday that he is ecstatic that the district court denied yesterday the preliminary injunction petition of the casino operator.

The decision lifts the confidentiality of IPI's annual financial statements, effectively making IPI finances public record through the CCC—including sensitive financial information of subsidiary companies that IPI represents.

IPI said it will appeal Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's decision.

In a statement yesterday, Propst said that IPI essentially "lost today and the people won; transparency wins, the people won." IPI's financial audit "will not be redacted. … It is going to be fully available for anyone who wishes to get this information."

"This information should be shared. Oftentimes, IPI likes to claim this is important to them because these are businesses and…IPI likes to claim they are just like any other business. I disagree," he told *Saipan Tribune*. "IPI is not like any other business because they are a monopoly—they are the sole [casino operator licensee], and that is very unusual. They want to be treated like any other business, but they are not," adding that IPI is not "upholding and following" their casino license agreement.

"That is a grave concern. Furthermore, I am concerned that they didn't care they were violating Public Law 19-24," he added.

According to P.L. 19-24, IPI is required to turn over their financials to the CCC if requested for review. According to Propst, everything he asked for was covered and protected by the law.

"My hope moving forward is that this sets precedence, that they [IPI] learn from their lessons and that they embrace transparency and come to the light," Propst said.

"I have nothing against IPI and I want them to succeed. But they aren't going to succeed by hiding things from people. They need to be upfront with open dialogue with not just our legislators, but also our people," he added.

Propst already released IPI's financial statements in a legislative session. He told *Saipan Tribune* in a previous interview that he got the financial report from House Gaming Committee chair Rep. Ralph Yumul (R-Saipan) after showing him the OGA request.

"…The public interest weighs in favor of denying the preliminary injunction," Propst said yesterday, citing Manglona's 25-page ruling.

In a previous hearing at the CNMI Superior Court, the CCC noted that IPI is not entitled to a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, or even a permanent injunction because they would not have succeeded in preventing CCC, a government agency regulating the casino's operations, from allowing public inspection of the information they collected.

SAD

From Page 1

people and shops. Today, you walk through Paseo de Marianas at night, the lights are dim, and you see a few people," she said.

"During the day, you will see people—tourists and locals—because of the souvenir shops, designer stores, and restaurants. But these people come here for a purpose—to shop and to eat at their favorite restaurants. They don't really come here to see the sights because there is not much to see," she added.

So when she heard about the stakeholders meeting called by the Office of Planning and Development, Saipan Zoning, Office, and Garapan Revitalization Task Force last June, it gave her hope that the Garapan she saw 28 years ago will make a comeback and be even better.

The Garapan Revitalization Plan wants to transform Garapan into a premier family-friendly destination, featuring a wide range of shopping, dining, entertainment, civic, and commercial uses in a world-class beach resort setting that is attractive for visitors and residents, according to OPD deputy director Chris Concepcion.

"The plan envisions Garapan affirming its claim as the center of economic activity and the heart of our tourism industry. …The plan is composed of multi-phases that will start on the west side part of the Garapan Core," he said.

The Garapan Revitalization Task Force itself is composed of businesses, residents, and government agencies collaborating to alleviate some of the many challenges facing the area.

Tasi Tours president Masato Tezuka supports that vision from the viewpoint of tour operators such as his company. "I used to work in Hawaii, that's why I know how important developing and beautifying Garapan is to capture tourists' interests and admiration. … If Garapan gives a good impression, then that will create a big impact for visitors in the CNMI," he said.

"Garapan's overall look and identity must match the brand strategy of how we market Saipan internationally, which is, in one word, 'beautiful'—landscape, scenery, colorful flowers, nature etc. …The total design of Garapan is very important because it can be developed to be a symbol area to represent the Marianas," he added.

Yugo Narita, a PADI instructor at Aqua Connections Inc. Hi-Five Co., Ltd. located in Garapan, said that they would gladly participate if the GRTF reaches out to them for suggestion or advice on how to improve Garapan.

"I was born and raised here on Saipan so I know the old times, the Garapan 15 years ago. All the places were occupied, Garapan Square had a lot of shops and it was busy, but now the building is pretty much empty."

"We have a problem with flooding, stray dogs, and parking. …I noticed there are some businesses at the Paseo de Marianas that are open one day and closed the next. Development might take a while but we will definitely work with them if they come to us for help. Everybody's pretty positive about Mr. Chris Concepcion as he's the one that brought [Skymark Airlines Inc."

Convincing Skymark Airlines to fly to the CNMI was one of Concepcion's achievement when he was still the head of the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Speaking in front of business leaders at the membership meeting of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce yesterday at the Seaside Ballroom of Kanoa Resort in Susupe, Office of Planning and Development director Kodep Ogumuro-Uludong said that part of the Garapan revitalization plan is to bring in technical expertise to assist the GRTF in turning Garapan into a world-class tourist destination.

He added that the update from the group is that the GRTF reconvened to review issues on parking, fire lanes, cleanliness, underground water drainage, storm water runoff, resurfacing of pavement, construction of curbs, sidewalks, gutters, lighting, and landscaping.

UOG professor accused of conspiring to rig bids

TAMUNING, Guam—A University of Guam professor, Thomas E. Marler, was arrested last Tuesday, Aug. 6, on federal charges of conspiring on a bid rigging scheme on federally funded grants administrated by the University of Guam.

A federal grand jury returned a four-count indictment, charging Marler and his co-defendant, Jayanika Lawrence, with conspiracy to restrain trade, conspiracy to commit wire fraud, wire fraud, and money laundering.

Marler was arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, along with law enforcement partners from the Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation, and Homeland Security Investigations.

"This investigation targeted a bid-rigging and fraud scheme concerning federally funded grants and projects at the University of Guam," said FBI Honolulu special agent in charge Eli S. Miranda. "The FBI will continue to pursue fraud and corruption investigations and hold accountable all those who betray the public's trust and confidence."

Marler was arrested at the A.B. Won Pat Guam International Airport. Lawrence, who resides in the state of Oregon, is scheduled to appear before the U.S. District Court of Guam.

The case was investigated by the FBI, IRS Criminal Investigations, and Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

IRS-CI special agent in charge Justin Campbell said, "These charges reflect the IRS' commitment to investigating significant financial crimes—especially when those crimes directly target taxpayer dollars intended to fund critical work being done with federally funded research grants. We will not waver in our dedication to root out individuals who seek to profit at the expense of the American taxpayers."

An indictment is merely a charge and the guilt of the defendant must be proven in the court of law. ***(PR)***

NIH offers 'gateway' to health careers

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The National Institutes of Health, one of the world's leading medical research centers and an agency of the U.S Department of Health, is opening its doors to CNMI students who want to pursue higher education in health-related fields once they step out of high school.

NIH has partnered with the Public School System through the Step-Up program to provide a gateway for students to apply for scholarships if they are interested in pursuing a career in health.

According to interim Education Commissioner Jackie Quitugua, this partnership with NIH through the Step-Up program gives participants a gateway to higher education opportunities because NIH would have their résumés on hand containing the kind of extensive research they have done in high school.

"There are these opportunities for our kids and any of our students who want to pursue this route. …NIH would already have their résumé and their résumés would already have the kind of research that they have initiated through this program and it's like a gateway into more funding opportunities for scholarships," she said.

She clarified, though, that although it gives one a higher chance at receiving scholarships, it's also not a guarantee as there is always a list of students who are also vying for the same scholarships in the same field.

"In all scholarships, there are processing and requirements, that's why I use the word 'gateway' because they are already registered with NIH through their research and through their [participation]," she said.

When asked if there were any previous Step-Up students who have gained scholarships or vied for a scholarships through NIH after graduating, Quitugua said there were a few.

"I do need to look into that whether we had really availed but I know we had some students who were really interested who went abroad but we may not have that document but I remember there were quite a number of them," she said.

Quitugua said that NIH has been a strong partner in the work that PSS has been doing in encouraging students to "reach for the stars" when choosing a career.

"It's really about the student's success and the desire of where our kids are heading, how we can support them and give them the opportunities as they are searching for the pathway they want in life," she said.

PIC to host first Summerfest

Pacific Islands Club Saipan is stepping up its game by hosting what will be the very first Summerfest on Aug. 9 and 10 with a range of entertaining elements to experience.

According to a PIC statement, this two-day event will be all-encompassing and joyous celebration, with both daytime activities and nighttime party.

"We are hoping this festival to be one of new signature attractions of Saipan. It will be a fun day out for families on the island and, at the same time, enticement that fascinates visitors to choose Saipan for their vacation," said Dennis Tababa, director of PIC Saipan's Sports, Entertainment, and Activity department.

Water games and sports will be the highlight of the fest. Using PIC Saipan's Waterpark facility, the resort is presenting games like water basketball, water balloon fights, water gun fights, water runs on the floating stepping stones, and many more.

"There will be ample choices of things to do. Guests would feel that two days is even not enough to try all the activities available," said Tababa.

The annual Hafa Adai 5K Color Run will take place on the second day, early in the morning.

Runners will depart from the PIC beach volleyball court, head north, turn around across Triple J Wholesale, and return to the starting point.

The proceeds raised from the race goes to Empty Vessel Ministry.

Bridge Capital, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Pacific Trading Co., Pepsi, TanHoldings, Topnotch, Triple J Wholesale, and PIC's sister hotel, Kensington Hotel Saipan, are sponsoring the event.

"If you get hungry and thirsty from all the games and activities, come to food stands where we will serve drinks and international snacks," said Steve Balakrishna, director of Food and Beverage. Guests are supposed to pay tokens for food; tokens will be sold at the entrance.

Daytime fun will be followed by shows and concert. Music bands, DJ, and performers are lined up for nightly entertainment, and a Glow Party will be the grand finale of the whole festival.

In-house guests can enjoy the entire program for free. PIC Saipan also offers different options of special deals to Saipan residents. Summerfest Super Pass, access to waterparks, all the program, and lunch at Magellan, is available at $70 and $55, for adult and child, respectively. Super Pass, without lunch option, is $55 for adult and $40 for children. For anyone who can make it only on Saturday, Summerfest Saturday Extravaganza is available at $40 for adult, and $30 for child. ***(PR)***

PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs-Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will hold a Public Hearing on

DATE	TIME	ISLAND	VENUE
AUGUST 08, 2019	5:30-6:00 PM	SAIPAN	CAROLINIAN UTT
AUGUST 15, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	TINIAN	TINIAN YOUTH CENTER
AUGUST 19, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	ROTA	ROTA YOUTH CENTER

The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments on the FY 2020 LIHEAP Model Plan to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to implement the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for an eligible household in the CNMI.

Copies of the LIHEAP Model Plan and the Agenda of the public hearing will be available for public inspection beginning Tuesday, August 6, 2019, at the DCCA-LIHEAP office located in Capital Hill, Asuncion Road, Building #1339 and on the web at –dcca.gov.mp. Persons wishing to schedule testimony or receive a copy of the LIHEAP Model Plan should contract DCCA-LIHEAP at 664-2574.

Public Comments are due by Friday, August 23, 2019. You may submit your comments via dcca.gov.mp or contacts listed below.

Mailing Address: **Department of Community & Cultural Affairs**
Low Income home Energy Assistance Program
Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950
Contact #: **DCCA-LIHEAP 664-2574**
Email Address: **Gregoria Olopai, Administrative Officer** (golopai1960@gmail.com)
Robert Hunter, DCCA Secretary (roberthunter@gmail.com)

NUTISIAN PUPBLIKU

I Dipåttamentun Asuntu Kumunidåt Yan Kuttura - Prugråman Inasistin Takpapa' Suetdu (LIHEAP) para u managuaha Inekunguk Pupbliku gi

DATE	TIME	ISLAND	VENUE
AGUSTU 8, 2019	5:30-6:00 PM	SA'IPAN	CAROLINIAN UTT
AGUSTU 15, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	TINI'AN	TINIAN YOUTH CENTER
AGUSTU 19, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	LUTA	ROTA YOUTH CENTER

I rason nu esti na inekunguk pupbliku put para u marisibi upiñon pat testimoñiun kinentra siha para iyon-ñiha Modelu Na Plånu para i Fiscal Year 2020 i LIHEAP para i Dipåttamentun Hinemlu' yan i Setbision Tåotåo siha (HHS) para u ma'implimenta i Prugråman Inasistin Takpapa' Suetdu para i mankuålifikao na tåotåo guma' siha giya CNMI.

I kopian nu i LIHEAP Modelu Na Plånu yan i Asuntu nu i inekunguk pupbliku siempri managuaha para imbestigasion pupbliku matutuhun gi Måttis, Agustu 6, 2019 na ha'åni iya Capitol Hill, Asuncion Road, Building #1339 gi ufisinan DCCA-LIHEAP yan gi web dcca.gov.mp. I petsona siha ni manmalagu' manmahunguk i testimoniun-ñiha pat rumisibi i kopian i LIHEAP Modelu Na Plånu debi na u ma'ågang i DCCA-LIHEAP gi 664-2574.

I Upiñon Pupbliku debi na u manahålum åntis di Betnis, Agustu 23, 2019. Siña un na'hålum upiñon-mu guatu gi dcca.gov.mp pat i contact siha ni manmalista gi sanpapa'.

Mailing Address: **Department of Community & Cultural Affairs**
Low Income home Energy Assistance Program
Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950
Contact #: **DCCA-LIHEAP 664-2574**
Email Address: **Gregoria Olopai, Administrative Officer** (golopai1960@gmail.com)
Robert Hunter, DCCA Secretary (roberthunter@gmail.com)

ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Sóóbw me Kko – Progróómal Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) ebwe ayoora Arongorongol Toulap wóól

RÁÁL	OORA	FALÚW	LELIYÁL
ELÚWEL 8, 2019	5:30-6:00 PM	SEIPÉL	CAROLINIAN UTT
ELÚWEL 15, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	TCHILIYÓL	TINIAN YOUTH CENTER
ELÚWEL 19, 2019	5:30-6:30 PM	LUUTA	ROTA YOUTH CENTER

Bwulul arongorong yeel nge reel rebwe bweibwogh fóós wóól FY 2020 LIHEAP Model Plan ngáli U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) igha rebwe ayoorai mwóghutughutúl Progróómal Low Income Home Energy Assistance ngáli schóól Illól iimw ikka re ffil me Illól CNMI.

Pappidil LIHEAP Model Plan me Agenda reel arongorongol toulap yeel ebwe yoor ngáli ghámi toulap reel ów bwe amwuri wóól Mwattis, Elúwel 06, 2019 reel Bwulasiyol DCCA-LIHEAP iye e lo Asúngúl, aalil Asuncion, Kkayú #1339 me mweteló dcca.gov.mp wóól web. Schóó kka re tipáli rebwe ayoorai aalleta ngáre bweibwogh pappidil LIHEAP Model Plan rebwe faingiló DCCA-LIHEAP reel 664-2574.

Fóós sángi toulap ebwe toolong wóól Bennis, Elúwel 23, 2019. Emmwel ubwe isiisilong yóómw fóós ngáli dcca.gov.mp ngáre faingi me isch ngáli contacts ikka e amwirimwiritiw.

Mailing Address: **Department of Community & Cultural Affairs**
Low Income home Energy Assistance Program
Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950
Contact #: **DCCA-LIHEAP 664-2574**
Email Address: **Gregoria Olopai, Administrative Officer** (golopai1960@gmail.com)
Robert Hunter, DCCA Secretary (roberthunter@gmail.com)

Century Tours, CDI promote 'edutourism' as niche market

MARC A. VENUS

Participants of the first-ever Educational Tourism program in the CNMI pose with Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and his staff yesterday at the Saipan Mayor's Office.

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Century Tours and the Northern Marianas College's Community Development Institute have started a new collaboration, this time focusing on the promising prospects of educational tourism.

The two have just started their first-ever educational tourism trips around Saipan, with the aim of teaching tourists about the environment, government, history, and culture of the CNMI.

According to Century Tours operations manager Owen Ji, the visiting group of two Chinese families are from Shenzhen, China which is in southern China near Hong Kong. The families consist of a mix of elementary and high school students with their families.

The group arrived last Monday and will be here until Friday.

The group has already visited the the NMI Museum of History & Culture, the CNMI Legislature, the office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) in Susupe, the Saipan Mayor's Office, and the American Memorial Park.

Ji told *Saipan Tribune* that this is the first time Century Tours and CDI have done an educational tourism trip, and hopes that they can sustain this effort.

CDI director Arthur De Oro said the group also toured the college on Monday and told them about the CNMI's relationship with the United States, and the history and culture of the CNMI. De Oro accompanies the group as they continue their trip around Saipan.

De Oro said that they are following the footsteps of the Marianas Visitors Authority's initiative to promote educational tourism, which draws in tourists and allows them to learn about the place that they are visiting. He said that they also worked with the 500 Sails program with the possibility of educating tourists about sailing, canoe-making, and other activities.

De Oro also said it is the CDI's initiative to work with the tourists and take care of the certification of the tour guides.

Saipan Mayor David A. Apatang thanked Century Tours and NMC for making this possible, as he believes that the tourists should see the potential that Saipan has to draw more tourists. The group visited his office yesterday.

One of the elementary students, who identified himself only as Armani, said that he loves the islands and he hopes to visit again next year. He finds the people friendly, the food great, and finds it interesting how the indigenous culture is kept alive.

NMC Info Session tonight

Those who want to further their education and advance their careers are invited to attend the Northern Marianas College's Info Session tonight, Aug. 8, from 5:30pm to 6:30opm, at the Olympio T. Borja Library at the college's As Terlaje campus.

Attendees will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2019 semester—a savings of about $75.

The free session will include discussions on NMC's admissions process, financial aid options available to students, and the various degree programs at the college. Prospective students and community members are reminded that there is still time to access financial aid for the fall 2019 semester.

Those interested in receiving help in applying for financial aid can also attend NMC's free FAFSA workshop on Friday, Aug. 9, 2019. The workshop consists of three separate sessions held at 9am, 10am, and 11am at the NMC computer lab in Building V in room V108.

Financial aid representatives will be assisting parents and students in filling out the online FAFSA for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year.

Interested participants for Friday's FAFSA workshop can reserve a spot in one of the three sessions by emailing Financial Aid director Daisy Propst at daisy.propst@marianas.edu or by calling the Financial Aid Office at (670) 237-6791, 6793, or 6794.

For more information about the info session and/or NMC's upcoming fFall 2019 semester, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

DPS looking for Juan Tydingco

The CNMI Department of Public Safety is seeking the public's help in locating 43-year-old Juan Tydingco, who is also known as John, for questioning.

Tydingco is believed to frequent the village of Koblerville and other villages on the southern part of the island. He is believed to be driving either a maroon, 4x2, 2012 Toyota Tacoma, a white 2008 Toyota Camry, or a brown 2013-2016 Mazda 3.

Tydingco

If you come in contact with Tydingco, contact the Criminal Bureau of Investigation at 664-9042. If you wish to remain anonymous, call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. ***(PR)***

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Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 22, 2019
5:00 PM, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 06/13/2019 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments *(not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)*

B. Public Hearings:

1. Conditional Use Application #2019-2230: American Huasheng Trade Corporation is proposing to occupy an existing 2-storey single family dwelling with (6) six bedroom units to operate a bed & breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 016 K 44 along Tasi Drive in DanDan. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

2. Conditional Use Application #2019-0770: Joy Lee Corporation dba Green Consume Market is proposing to construct a structure for warehouse. This use is classified as "Warehousing & General Wholesaling" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. EA 225-NEW-1 in As Lito. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

3. Rezone Application #2019-2112: Francisco Paul B. Roberto is requesting to rezone Lots No. TR21863-13 & TR21863NEW-R1 in Dandan/Airport Road from "Village Commercial" to "Mixed Commercial" zoning district to operate an Auto Body Shop/Vehicle Repair, General.

4. Conditional Use Application #2019-2399: SKT Company Limited is proposing to occupy an existing duplex structure with (3) bedrooms per unit to operate a bed & breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lots No. 1742 NEW-11 & 1742 NEW-10 in Chalan Kiya. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

5. Rezone Application #2019-2458: Department of Public Works (DPW) – Solid Waste Division is requesting to rezone Lot No. 004 G 43 in Kagman from "Agricultural" to "Rural" zoning district for a construction of a new Kagman Residential Solid Waste Transfer Station.

6. Conditional Use Application #2019-2475: Crystal Ice & Water is proposing to occupy an existing structure to manufacture and process water and ice. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. TR 22832-4 in San Antonio. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

7. Conditional Use Application #2019-2711: P & P Elevator Company is proposing to construct a new structure utilizing 7 (seven) 40' and 1 (one) 20' containers for its Coffee Shop. This use is classified as "Restaurant, General" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 058 D 14 in Navy Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.

8. Conditional Use Application #2019-2735: Sphere, Inc. dba Vietnam Home Gallery is proposing to occupy the ground floor of an existing two-storey building to operate a Flower & Floral Shop. This use is classified as "Retail Sales, Light – Flower & Floral Shop" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 015 D 60 in China Town. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

9. Conditional Use Application #2019-3066: 3K Corporation is proposing to occupy an existing 1-storey structure to operate a BBQ stand. This use is classified a "Restaurant-Drive Thru" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lots No. 38-3, 38-4, & 38-5 in Dandan. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

C. Communication

D. Old Business

E. New Business
1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

H. Adjourn

NMC sees increased enrollment, graduates

The Northern Marianas College has seen its enrollment and graduation numbers significantly increase in the last 10 years, according to NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico in his presentation last Tuesday at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Since the 2008-2009 academic year up to the 2017-2018 academic year, NMC saw a 55% increase in its enrollment numbers and "we are happy that our enrollment continues to be strong," Eliptico said.

Eliptico said that the 2018-2019 enrollment numbers have yet to be released, but he expects it to show the college's sustained growth.

He said the graduating class of 2019 was one of the largest groups to graduate from NMC, falling short of the record-high Class of 2018.

Usually, NMC holds its graduation ceremony in the middle of May; however, due to the impacts of Super Typhoon Yutu on NMC, they had to move the ceremony to the last week of June as the 2019 spring semester started late. They also had to extend the length of classes in the spring 2019 semester, from 75-minute sessions to 120-minute sessions.

With the increase in enrollment numbers also came an increase in the number of graduates, Eliptico said. And with the college adding more certification programs, they have seen more and more students succeed with NMC.

The number of graduates with degrees in school year 2017-2018 saw 246 graduate with college degrees and 61 with certificates, while school year 2016-2017 saw 184 graduates with college degrees and 48 with certificates.

The lowest number of graduates was in school year 2009-2010, with 84 graduates with degrees, and that number would gradually increase over the years.

Eliptico thanked all the students who have enrolled and graduated at NMC and said that, despite the destruction of the NMC campus caused by Super Typhoon Yutu, the college will strive to increase the number of graduates, programs, and enrollees in the coming years.

The college currently offers associate and bachelor degree programs, certification programs, Priority Learning Assessments, and Adult Basic Education. ***(Marc A. Venus)***

OSHA On-Site Consultation ready to help

For the first time since the inception of the program in 2003, the CNMI OSHA On-Site Consultation Office is fully staffed with one project manager, two safety consultants, one industrial hygienist and an administrative officer to assist small to mid-size businesses in the private sector to be OSHA-compliant throughout all of the CNMI and to ensure the safety of employees in the workplace.

"Three quarters into the year, the CNMI OSHA program has…assisted with 20 high-hazard consultations in the construction industry and 44 in general industry," said project manager Timothy Asaivao. "Our goal is to conduct at least 100 consultations before the end of the fiscal year."

The CNMI OSHA office also participates in nationally recognized programs such as the National Safety Stand Down Campaign. The week of Aug. 12-16 is Safe and Sound Week and will mark the third national Safety Stand Down Campaign for the year.

The CNMI OSHA office is located in Building 1338, Ascension Drive, Capital Hill. To schedule your free and confidential OSHA consultation, call (670) 664-3154/5/6/7 and speak with any of its staff. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-028

REPLACEMENT OF SADOG TASI WWTP CLARIFIER

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Replacement of Sadog Tasi Clarifier Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of installation of a new circular clarifier mechanism and replacement or repair of the effluent launder box; removal of the old circular clarifier mechanism and sections of the effluent launder box; replacement of the RFP weirs and scum baffle, installation of a new outer scum baffle; installation of new area lighting, wires, and conduit, and disconnect boxes; installation of a new process water spray system for foam control. The work shall include the dewatering and cleaning of aeration basin #3 and the clarifier; routing process flow and maintaining conditions during the construction period; and returning process flow from the aeration basin to the clarifier. The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi Waste Water Treatment Plant. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$100.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on August 22, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-19-028, Replacement of the Sadog Tasi Clarifier"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) September 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time.

Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 23, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior – christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

‘Cannabis amendment should’ve gone to conference’

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The four House of Representative members that opposed a recently passed legislation that amended the cannabis bill believe that the bill should have been taken up in a conference committee.

The conference committee, which is expressly formed by the Legislature to settle differences between the House and Senate on a specific bill, should have been the route taken on House Bill 21-13, according to three members of the minority bloc who voted against the Senate version of Rep. John Paul Sablan’s (R-Saipan) H.B. 21-13.

Rep. Sheila Babauta (Ind-Saipan), who voted against the Senate amendment to the bill, explained that she “was not comfortable with the requirement of a Homegrown Marijuana Registry ID card for responsible users.”

That’s because the list of names may be accessible to the public and may have “detrimental effects” on certain occupations since cannabis is still registered as a federally controlled substance.

“This only opens the door to discrimination. It is not practiced in states that have legalized cannabis and I just don’t believe a list is necessary,” she added.

Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) was concerned about giving the cannabis commission authority over hemp. She said that hemp is different from cannabis and that there is a proper agency to regulate it.

“…Hemp should properly be considered an ordinary agricultural commodity in light of the Farm Act and would more appropriately be governed by the Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Division of Agriculture,” she told *Saipan Tribune* in a statement, adding that the majority bloc also acknowledged some of the concerns they shared during floor discussions.

In a separate statement, minority leader Rep. Ed Propst Ind-Saipan) noted that Rep. Marco Peter (R-Saipan) already has a bill for regulating hemp. “So [hemp regulation authority] should not have been re-inserted into [H.B. 21-13]. It should have been taken out and separated.”

Sablan and Propst also cited some Senate errors that they said should have been addressed in a conference committee.

“…One [Senate change] deletes a provision of the current law that has to do with the filling of vacancies and removal of cannabis commissioners for cause,” Sablan said.

“There were numerous errors in the bill that were more than just technical. An example would be a new subsection they [cited] that did not even exist, so there are obviously errors that need to be fixed—it’s sloppy…work,” Propst added without stating specifics.

Additionally, Sablan pointed out that there is no clarity between the classes of licenses for marijuana languages, while also setting a “quite steep” license fee for “small plots of land.”

The bill sets the annual nonrefundable license and application fees for farm plots less than 750 square feet at $1,500.

“…And the [cannabis] commission does not have much flexibility to adjust,” Sablan added.

She said the minority bloc pushed to send H.B. 21-13 to a conference committee to correct the errors and resolve the differences between the bills.

“Too often we see legislation rushed to passage, only to have to come back later to amend the law again and again because mistakes were made that could have been corrected in the legislative process,” she said in her statement.

She cited as a recent example the Marianas Public Land Trust loan bill, the Cannabis Act, and the Casino Act.

“The practice of ‘pass now, fix later’ tends to bring new problems that could have been avoided,” she added. “Unfortunately, the majority did not agree, and I think we can reasonably expect to soon be back at the drawing board with amendments to the law, again.”

Finally, Sablan questioned the composition and qualifications of the cannabis commission. Although not specifically a Senate amendment, Sablan believes it is fitting to have a panel that consists of more diverse backgrounds.

“…Rather than creating new, full-time positions with minimal qualifications at $55,000 each plus benefits, costing taxpayers well over $300,000 for commissioners’ compensation alone, we think it would be more prudent, from a fiscal and policy perspective, to create a commission that consists of individuals with expertise in key areas like public health, law enforcement, commodity regulation, and social justice,” she said, also adding that the Senate amendment that disallows current CNMI government employees to serve on the commission should be revisited as well.

“…Particularly if they have the requisite background and skills and if their positions in relevant agencies would make sense for cannabis regulation. Other cannabis commissions in other jurisdictions are comprised similarly. We have other government commissions here that include government employees. So, it’s not unprecedented in the CNMI either.”

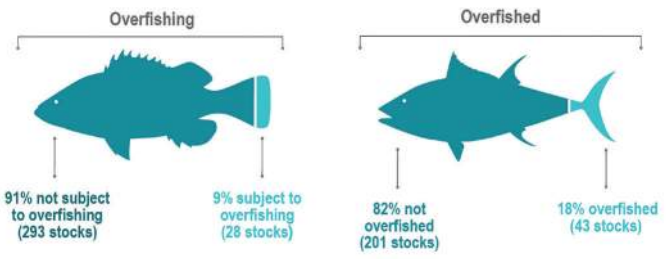
The fourth lawmaker who voted against the bill is Rep. Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan).

US fish stocks at sustainable levels at near record-high

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration released on Aug. 2, 2019, the 2018 Status of U.S. Fisheries Annual Report to Congress that details the status of 479 federally-managed stocks or stock complexes in the U.S. to identify which stocks are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are rebuilt to sustainable levels.

Building upon the trend of the past few years, the report notes that the vast majority of U.S. fish stocks were at sustainable population levels in 2018, and the number of U.S. fish stocks subject to overfishing remains at a near all-time low. The report also documents a newly-rebuilt stock, smooth skate in the Gulf of Maine. This brings the total number of rebuilt U.S. marine fish stocks to 45 since the year 2000, an encouraging indicator that the U.S. fishery management system is achieving its long-term sustainability goals.

“The U.S. is an international leader in fisheries management, and through our work in partnership with the regional councils, we’re on track to maintain that high standard,” said Rear Admiral Timothy Gallaudet, Ph.D., NOAA’s assistant secretary of commerce for oceans and atmosphere. “Our fishing communities continue to succeed and contribute to


Overfishing
91% not subject to overfishing (293 stocks)
9% subject to overfishing (28 stocks)
Overfished
82% not overfished (201 stocks)
18% overfished (43 stocks)

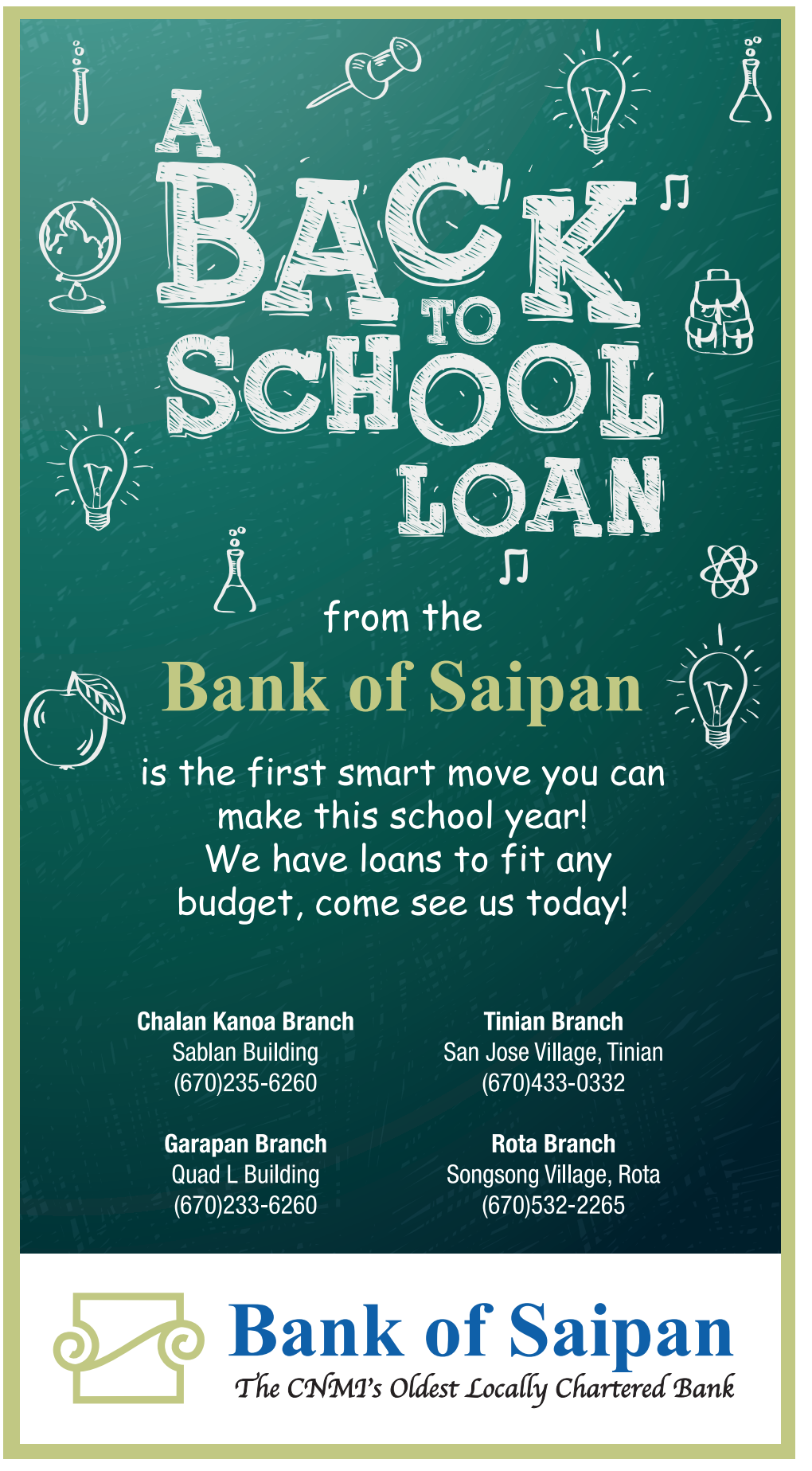
the Blue Economy. In 2016 alone, U.S. commercial fishing, recreational fishing, and the seafood industry generated $212 billion in sales, contributed $100 billion to the gross domestic product, and supported 1.7 million full- and part-time jobs.”

A stock is on the *overfishing* list when the harvest rate of that species is too high. Of 321 stocks with known status, 293 (91%) are not subject to overfishing. The remaining 28 stocks (9%) are subject to overfishing. Seven stocks were removed from the overfishing list, and five were added in 2018. As required under the Magnuson-Stevens Act (the U.S. ocean fisheries law), NOAA Fisheries works with regional fishery management councils and other partners to implement measures to immediately end overfishing.

A stock is on the *overfished* list when the population size of a stock is too low, whether because of fishing or other causes, such as environmental changes. Of 244 stocks with known status, 201 (or 82%) are not overfished, leaving 43 stocks (18%) listed as overfished. No stocks were removed from the overfished list in 2018, but eight were added. Several of these stocks are impacted by factors outside the control of domestic fisheries management. For example, for three stocks of coho salmon in Washington state, warmer water, drought or habitat degradation contributed to less than ideal spawning conditions.

One stock has been declared *rebuilt*: Smooth skate in the Gulf of Maine, which had been in a rebuilding plan for nine years under strict management.

“Achieving sustainable fisheries requires sound science, innovative management, effective enforcement, meaningful partnerships, and robust public participation,” said Chris Oliver, assistant administrator for NOAA Fisheries. “We are well positioned to meet the sustainability challenges of today and tomorrow thanks to the hard work of our fishermen, fishing communities, scientists and many other partners.” ***(PR)***



Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIX, Issue No. 156

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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EDITORIAL

Gun control won't stop white supremacy, but it could make it less deadly

This weekend, America was under attack. It wasn't an invader or foreign force that murdered 31 people in two mass shootings just 13 hours apart. The attack was from two white male Americans, exercising their Second Amendment right to take away others' right to live.

Early Sunday morning, in Dayton, Ohio, 24-year-old Connor Betts opened fire in the city's entertainment district. He was armed with a high-capacity rifle with 100-round drum magazines, killing nine people and injuring 27 others.

While the motive of the Dayton attack is still unknown, the earlier attack, in El Paso, Texas, was a planned massacre that targeted Hispanic people. Patrick Crusius, 21, traveled more than 600 miles to a Walmart and opened fire with an AK-47-style assault rifle. He killed 22 people, including two who died on Monday. Among the dead were six Mexican nationals. Federal law enforcement is investigating the incident as domestic terrorism.

Before the attack, Crusius uploaded a white supremacist manifesto in which he explains that the motivation of the attack is a "Hispanic invasion of Texas"—echoing language that President Donald Trump has repeated over and over again.

It's tempting to call the horror in El Paso "senseless," but it actually makes sense when considering the president's consistent rhetoric on immigration and his demonization of people crossing the border. Couple that with his coddling of white nationalists and the bloodshed that El Paso experienced might almost be considered inevitable.

When Trump responded Monday morning, he had an opportunity to show a hint of humility—even humanity—and recognize the direct contribution of his behavior to the radicalization of young white men such as the shooter in El Paso. He didn't.

If the attack was carried by a foreign national who targeted Americans, it is hard to imagine a scenario in which Congress and the White House would not come together to respond—with swiftness and with no equivocation. But the enemy is us—a country stewing with hate that has done nothing in the face of an epidemic of mass shootings, not even the most modest gun control measures. The list of necessary controls, including universal background checks and a ban on high-capacity magazines, is familiar, but we must start with reinstating the federal assault weapons ban.

From 1994 to 2003, the sale and manufacturing of new assault weapons was banned. Research suggests that the ban reduced the number of fatalities in mass shootings. It was allowed to expire in 2004. The ban should be renewed today.

Not preventing a shooting but reducing the number of fatalities is a depressing goal to work toward. But in 2019, this is where America is. Unfortunately, lawmakers like Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell have no interest in innocent human lives. In February, the House of Representatives passed a universal background check bill. McConnell didn't give it a vote in the Senate.

If Republican lawmakers are comfortable with having blood on their hands as the cost for campaign contributions from the National Rifle Association, the least they can do is be forced to take a vote on this and other commonsense legislation—and then show their bloody palms to the nation.

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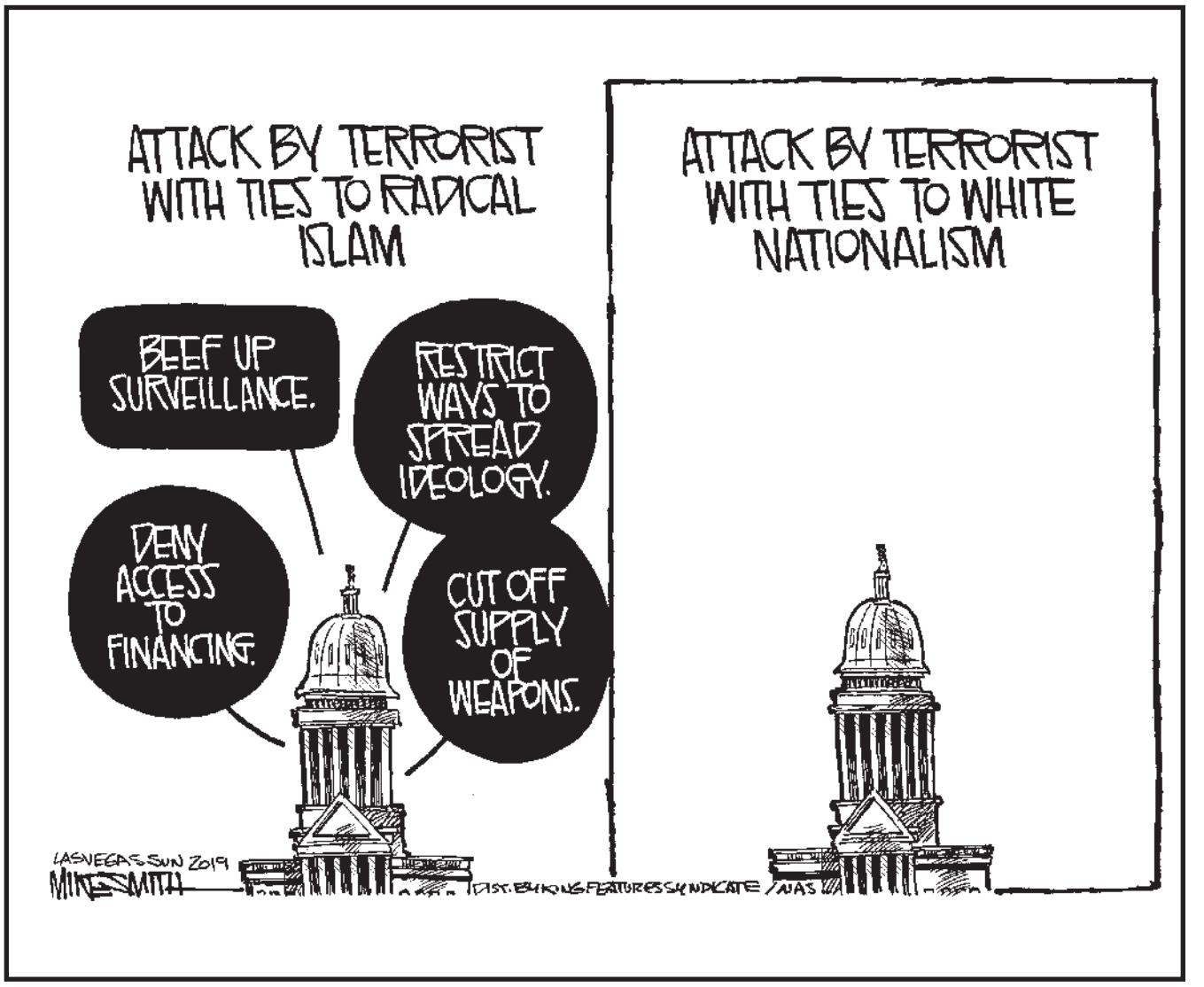
ATTACK BY TERRORIST WITH TIES TO RADICAL ISLAM
BEEF UP SURVEILLANCE.
RESTRICT WAYS TO SPREAD IDEOLOGY.
DENY ACCESS TO FINANCING.
CUT OFF SUPPLY OF WEAPONS.
ATTACK BY TERRORIST WITH TIES TO WHITE NATIONALISM
LASVEGAS SUN 2019
MIKE SMITH
DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYNDICATE

Wanted: Remedy for America's illness

By JONAH GOLDBERG
Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg's latest book, Suicide of the West, *is now available wherever books are sold. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by e-mail at goldbergcolumn@gmail.com, or via Twitter @JonahNRO.*

America is sick. Just about everybody recognizes it, and we didn't need two more mass shootings to convince anybody of anything. Most Americans think the country is on the wrong track, despite a roaring economy. You can blame Donald Trump, but Americans have been unsatisfied with the country's direction for most of the last two decades.

Amazingly, given the level of partisan animosity in this country, both sides see the problem much the same way: The country is disordered by selfishness, alienation, variously defined bigotries, inequality and a lack of social solidarity. Even more bizarre, both the right and the left have very similar solutions in mind.

Both are very wrong.

On the right, a growing number of intellectuals see nationalism as the cure for what ails us. The Hudson Institute's Christopher DeMuth argues that nationalism is an idea whose time has come (again) because it reminds us "of our dependence on one another." He likens it to the religious "Great Awakenings" of the past. Catholic writer Sohrab Ahmari wants an awakening that delivers "order," "social cohesion" and policies aimed at the "Highest Good"—in the classical philosophic sense (summum bonum).

On the left, listen closely to the proselytizers of the new socialist awakening. You'll notice that it has less to do with economics than a yearning for more a cooperative and egalitarian alternative to selfish capitalism, driven not by nationalism but government—which is "the only thing we all belong to" as a video at the 2012 Democratic Convention asserted.

The vocabulary they use is different, but the underlying indictment of the status quo is remarkably similar. Nationalism is an obscenity to the left, and socialism is anathema for the right, but a nationalizing or centralizing spirit suffuses both sides.

Team Trump's "economic nationalism," has echoes of the "economic patriotism" of Sen. Elizabeth Warren, who speaks with an almost Trumpian passion when she talks about how the "system is rigged." A slew of wannabe GOP successors to Trump, with Sen. Josh Hawley in the lead, seem desperate to craft a new "daddy state" industrial policy for right-wingers.

As a conservative of a classically liberal bent, I find this new convergence of left and right dismaying and disheartening. But that doesn't mean they don't have a point that something is very wrong. You only have to look at the rising suicide rates, opioid deaths, declining life expectancy and, of course, the onslaught of mass shootings to see the country's despair. A recent survey found that more than a fifth of millennials say they have no friends—a poignant illustration of the loneliness crisis that probably has at least as much to do with mass shootings as white supremacy or video games.

Where everyone loses me is with the idea that the solution to these maladies can be found in Washington or in nationalizing movements of the right or the left.

One of the reasons social media is so toxic is that it is a nationalizing force; it makes us feel as if strangers thousands of miles away are neighbors—and we get mad when neighbors are living the "wrong" way. Cable news does the same thing, just with better production values, plucking anecdotal stories and making them part of a "national conversation." The problem is that there's no such thing as an actual national conversation.

What we need are communities, and the idea of national community is a myth. Conversation is done face to face and person to person, and so is community.

The nationalization of culture drives centralized government, and centralized government saps communities of mutual dependence. It renders the rich ecosystem between the individual and the state obsolete, yet it is that habitat where humans actually live and find meaning.

The nationalizing movements aim to fill the void left by the decline or disappearance of not just of industrial jobs, but of the healthy communities that grew up around the factories.

Government has a role in dealing with the challenges of globalization and automation, but these movements cannot fill the holes in our souls. And the prospect that either side is eager to try only raises the stakes for the other. This is how nationalization fuels winner-take-all polarization. When each tribe seeks to impose a one-size-fits-all "Highest Good" on all Americans, the paranoid belief that "all we hold dear" is at stake at the ballot box metastasizes for many.

And, for a few, ballots give way to bullets.

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Do not accept this way of life

By MARY MCNAMARA
Los Angeles Times

My children don't remember 9/11. My youngest hadn't yet been born; her siblings were 3 years old and 17 months old. They know what that date signifies, have seen the footage and visited the site, but they don't know what it means—not really. They cannot fathom the devastating cultural dislocation that occurred in those moments when the World Trade Center collapsed, the Pentagon burned and the seemingly impossible became real.

My children do not believe in the seemingly impossible. In a country where mass shootings have become routine, nothing seems impossible.

For them, the symbol of terror and terrorism is not Osama bin Laden, or even ISIS. For them, the symbol of terror and terrorism is a fellow American—almost always a man, almost always white—shooting a bunch of people he does not know. In a theater, a school, an office. At a mall, a concert, a restaurant, a festival, a Walmart.

These events do not shock them or wrench their belief about American culture from its socket. Mass shootings are part of what they know to be American culture. And the fact that no one seems to care enough to do anything to prevent them.

Yes, many protest and march and write outraged think pieces like this one. But since the ban on assault weapons expired in 2004, any attempt to prevent mass shootings, or even curtail their increasing frequency and deadliness, has been largely a matter of rhetoric.

If you can call statements on Twitter rhetoric.

For better and worse, the United States did plenty of things to prevent another 9/11. In addition to the military actions, agencies were established, a commission was formed, formal inquiries were made by the FBI and Congress, victim compensation acts were passed, additional security measures were taken at government buildings and, of course, airports.

After this weekend's twin massacres in El Paso and Dayton, Ohio, most government officials responded with what many young people deride as "thoughts and prayers" tweets or equally familiar calls for increased gun control.

My children do not wonder what meaningful actions will be taken to address our country's acceptance of mass shootings as a way of life. They wonder when it will be their turn to either run, duck or fall.

Not if.

When.

I have spent years giving them advice about what to do when a shooter appears in their classroom/club/store/church, most of which involves being aware of, and never far from, the exits—and remembering that while you can get hurt jumping through a window to safety, it probably won't kill you like a bullet will.

Advice that is probably useless.

I, meanwhile, end virtually every day with the prayer that when the shooter comes, it is to the place I am, rather than where my children are. Though the odds of family members dying in two separate incidents are becoming shorter every day.

It is to the credit of our government's post-9/11 response that my children, who do not remember a time when you could take a full-sized tube of toothpaste on an airplane, are not afraid of bombs.

Instead, thanks in very great part to that same government, they are afraid of ... I was about to write guns, but that is not true.

My kids are not afraid of "guns." They are afraid of assault weapons. And before some of you start sending me comments about how the media doesn't know the difference between automatic and semiautomatic, I am going to go with the Justice Department's definition: "semiautomatic firearms with a large magazine of ammunition that were designed and configured for rapid fire and combat use."

You know, the ones that were banned until 2004.

This is the part where lots of people say that mass shootings have increased 200% since the ban expired, and lots of people say that it's not true. Or that Neil DeGrasse Tyson points out, for reasons of his own, that lots of people die from the flu too.

This is the part where people start yelling about mental health and Mitch McConnell and the 2nd Amendment and video games and everyone gets real comfortable in their corners, all decorated with opposing graphs and anecdotal evidence and definitions of what it means to be American.

And while we're all doing that, someone somewhere is wondering when it would be a good idea to go to your local school/grocery store/library/amusement park and shoot as many people as he can before the police get to him.

Not if.

When.

This is not new and this is not normal and we have to stop talking past each other and do something about it.

We should absolutely be concerned about mental health, security and even violence in popular culture. But since guns are what allow a crazy person to become a mass murderer, that something will have to involve the control of guns.

President Trump recently said he supported legislation that would encourage states to implement "red flag" laws to make it easier to ensure that people with certain mental illnesses cannot purchase guns, and that's something.

Former attorney general Eric Holder and many others have called for a federal ban on assault weapons, silencers and body armor as well as universal background checks.

Many police officers have called for stricter and more strictly enforced laws regarding illegal gun possession, or, as the failed Gun Violence Prevention and Safe Communities Act of 2018 proposed, that certain weapons and ammunition be subject to taxation.

A call to make purchasing a gun as difficult as it is to seek an abortion—"a mandatory 48-hour waiting period, written permission from a parent or a judge, a note from a doctor proving that he understands what he is about to do, time spent watching a video on individual and mass murders, traveling hundreds of miles at his own expense to the nearest gun shop"—has even been making the rounds.

Is there a perfect solution that will end all mass shootings? No, but all or nothing is not the standard of law. Some or all of these suggestions might not solve the problem, but separately or together they would certainly help.

You know what won't help? Doing what we've been doing. Which is nothing.

By doing nothing, we not only accept the increased regularity of mass shootings, we condone it. By doing nothing, we tell the world that it's fine for armed men to kill large numbers of Americans.

Doing nothing says the pleasure some people take in owning a certain type of weapon is more important than the fear the rest of us have for our safety.

Some people take pleasure in driving while intoxicated, but that isn't legal. Not all—maybe not even most—drunk drivers kill people. But some do, and we as a society aren't willing to take the chance.

Doing something, on the other hand, lets the world know, and our kids know, that the American government is actually in the business of protecting its citizenry from threats alien and domestic, that our war on terrorism is real and universal.

That at the very least we believe the threat of death by mass shooting should be an "if," not a "when."

Who should fight the war on white nationalism

By ELI LAKE
Bloomberg News

Eli Lake is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering national security and foreign policy. He was the senior national security correspondent for the Daily Beast *and covered national security and intelligence for the* Washington Times*, the* New York Sun *and UPI.*

In the aftermath of the mass shootings in Ohio and Texas, a bipartisan consensus is emerging that America must wage a war on white nationalist terror.

There were editorials in the liberal New York Times and the conservative National Review. George P. Bush, son of Jeb and the Texas Land Commissioner, published an eloquent call to arms. Decrying the left for downplaying radical Islamic terrorism and the right for failing to confront the white nationalist variety, Bush wrote: "Both are evil, both are real, and both must be confronted and conquered."

What Bush and others mean to say is that white nationalism, the warped ideology that claims (among other things) that nonwhites are seeking to replace whites, is toxic and must be battled with the urgency of other political wars of the past. Think of the war against poverty or the war on drugs. What the scourge of white nationalism does not demand, however, is the kind of shooting war launched after Sept. 11, 2001.

The current threat cannot be met with drone strikes against militia compounds in Idaho or public diplomacy campaigns to cleave non-violent white supremacists from violent ones. There will be no U.S.-led global war on white nationalism. The CIA will not be on the front lines.

Instead, the threat of white nationalism requires a law enforcement approach. So how is that going? On the one hand, FBI director Chris Wray recently testified that 40% of the bureau's 850 domestic terrorism investigations involved individuals and groups motivated by racial hatred. In February, the FBI arrested a Coast Guard officer who had stockpiled arms and was plotting a race war. The country is fortunate he was arrested before he could carry out his plans.

Many of these attacks are harder to prevent. Unlike American recruits to the Islamic State or al Qaeda, white nationalist terrorists are usually not part of a formal group. The closest parallel would be the toxic Internet forums like 8chan, where the El Paso shooter is alleged to have posted his manifesto. Also, the bureau does not investigate ideologies, Wray testified last month, "no matter how repugnant."

Civil libertarians would disagree with that assessment. A 2013 report from the American Civil Liberties Union found some political spying in the 2000s on environmental and peace groups such as Greenpeace and the Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center.

Then there is the FBI's aggressive posture against suspected radical Muslims. There have been hundreds of suspects charged with a conspiracy to aid foreign terrorist groups before committing an act of violence. Much of this is made possible by an aggressive approach to infiltrating and disrupting jihadist cells before they strike.

The argument now is that similar tactics should be unleashed against white supremacists. As the Times said in its editorial, "American law enforcement needs to target white nationalists with the same zeal that they have targeted radical Islamic terrorists."

This is a fair point. The civil liberties of online bigots may need to be violated in order to prevent the next attack. But it's also important to remember some of the lessons of the last war on terror—including the tendency to overreach. As a Human Rights Watch report put it in 2014, "In some cases the Federal Bureau of Investigation may have created terrorists out of law-abiding individuals by conducting sting operations that facilitated or invented the target's willingness to act."

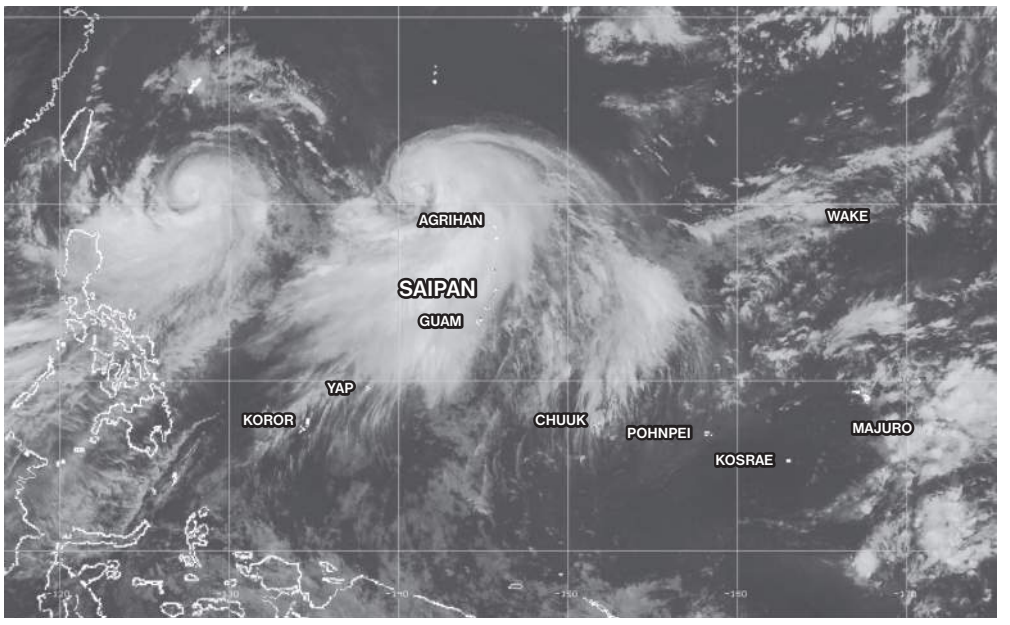
In the aftermath of the horror of El Paso, many Americans may be more willing to strike a bargain under which some innocent people have their lives ruined to prevent the next mass shooting. This instinct is understandable, but we should also be careful. The extraordinary powers granted to the FBI in a moment of crisis will inevitably be abused once the crisis has passed.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
84° 77°	85° 77°	86° 77°	86° 77°	87° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:11 AM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite imagery shows the Marianas along the eastern edge of the deep cloudiness associated with the southwest monsoon and TS Krosa. Krosa appears to be centered near 20N142E, about 485 miles NNW of Guam and 415 miles NW of Saipan. Radar shows a rain band west of the islands moving northeast, while only patches of light rain are seen in the Marianas waters. Seas remain elevated at 9 to 12 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Palau	Partly Cloudy	85° / 79°
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	59° / 52°
Beijing	Thunderstorms	82° / 72°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	91° / 82°
Honolulu	Showers	89° / 78°
London	Mostly Cloudy	75° / 64°
Los Angeles	Sunny	83° / 64°
Manila	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	50° / 45°
Miami	Thunderstorms	89° / 79°
New York	Partly Cloudy	90° / 72°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	95° / 81°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82° / 68°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	90° / 79°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	91° / 72°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	93° / 73°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 55°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	91° / 75°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	93° / 79°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	92° / 73°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:02 AM	LOW TIDE	2.06
7:04 AM	HIGH TIDE	0.63
12:51 PM	LOW TIDE	1.73
6:53 PM	HIGH TIDE	0.81

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:00 AM	6:44 PM
Friday	6:00 AM	6:43 PM
Saturday	6:01 AM	6:43 PM
Sunday	6:01 AM	6:42 PM
Monday	6:01 AM	6:42 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	12:42 PM	-	-
Friday	-	12:33 AM	1:37 PM
Saturday	-	1:20 AM	2:32 PM
Sunday	-	2:08 AM	3:26 PM
Monday	-	2:58 AM	4:18 PM

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 27, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

Island Ride: Saipan's answer to Uber and Grab

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

A company called Digital Saipan is set to launch Island Ride next month which is being dubbed as Saipan's version of Uber and Grab. Similar to those known ride-sharing services, Island Ride offers transport of people, goods, and services.

Digital Saipan is a software company and the knowledge and experience behind it is CEO/owner Kong Xi, who is from China and boasts 15 years of software development experience under his belt and also runs a software company in Beijing.

"In China, an ordinary day would be where you can step out of your house with just your phone because any transaction can be done through your smart phone whether you are buying groceries, paying bills, and getting a ride. I want to bring that technology and convenience to Saipan," he said.

Digital Saipan marketing manager Robert Exley said that there is a need for public and mass transportation on island that they want to help fill and that is why they came up with Island Ride.

"Saipan is a little island with a big need as there's a lack of mass transit. We have the bus but it is only available in limited hours and areas, we have taxis but also limited and drivers are not vetted and of course, the sad existence of many illegal taxis," he said.

"Island Ride is a ride-share application that is 50%-60% cheaper than taxis and we would like to make it safe, accessible. and economical for everyone," said Exley.

"The concept of our business is like that of Lift, Uber, and Grab all over the world. Our pool of drivers will be private citizens and their cars but eventually we would like to add our own fleet depending on the need of the market," he added.

With the Island Ride app, passengers can type their pick-up and drop-off locations. The estimated fare and time of arrival will appear, the nearest driver will appear with his information, and will respond and take the passenger to preferred destination. During the whole process, both driver and passenger are tracked by Digital Saipan through geo-location sharing that will let them know where both driver and passenger are at all times ensuring security.

BEA CABRERA
Digital Saipan CEO/owner Kong Xi brings his software knowledge and experience to Saipan by launching Island Ride.

At the end of the day, Digital Saipan aims the Island Ride experience both rewarding for both driver and passenger.

Looking for drivers

Island Ride is currently looking to build their fleet of drivers and cars. Exley said this is also economically beneficial to the community because it creates jobs.

"If you have a car that is not over five years old and you have time, then you can be one of our drivers. You can have a full-time job and do this on your free time or it is up to you whether you want to go full-time. Either way we have a vetting process that they need to fulfill."

Interested drivers are required to submit a police background check. If one is new on island and your police background dates less than a year they require three references—valid license, proof of insurance, and a certificate of car inspection from accredited centers.

They are open to take in sedans, pick-ups, trucks, and SUVs. As for compensation, Exley said that they follow Uber, Grab, and Lift standards.

"As a company, we only take a tiny percent by following market conditions as the transaction aims to be rewarding for both driver and passenger. From the fare, we will get 20% for the company for fees and 80% to the drivers."

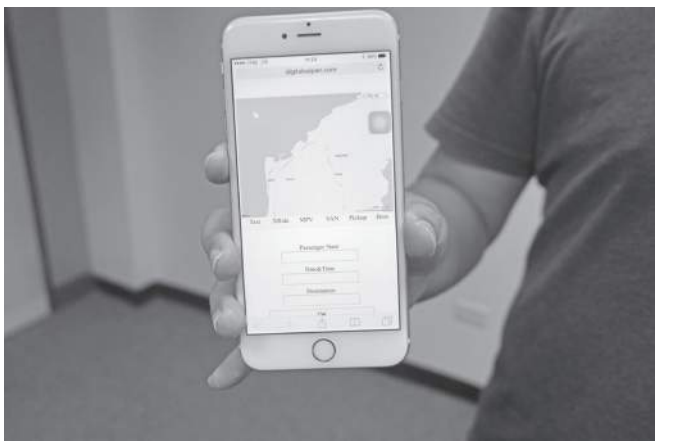
"So, the passenger spent $4 for fare that means $3.20 will go to the driver and 80 cents will got to the company for the software and this is the current model of Uber," he added.

According to Exley, Island Ride eventually plans to offer more services related to moving people. "We aim to meet the unique needs of every person or family on Saipan. Digital Saipan also believes that the transportation needs on Saipan exceeds farther than just moving people. Aside from transporting a customer from point A to B, Island Ride will eventually offer food delivery, help customers transport their goods as when they need to move their belongings around the island, and provide life service information such as house for rent, gardeners, babysitters, etc.," he said.

"One good thing about our company is Mr. Xi, the engineers, and I live here on Saipan. If something goes wrong with the software, we are here and not outsourced off-island so the community is guaranteed quality and continued service," Exley said.

"Aside from Island Ride, Digital Saipan offers software platform data analysis service," he added.

For more information, contact them at (670) 287-9758 or email Exley at robert@digitalsaipan.com. The company's website is http://www.digitalsaipan.



BEA CABRERA
The Island Ride App will help passenger access all of its offered services whether transporting people, goods, and service.

Walmart wrestles with how to respond to active shooters

NEW YORK (AP)—Like most retailers, Walmart is accustomed to the everyday dealings of shoplifters. Now, it's confronting a bigger threat: active shooters.

Three days after a man opened fire at one of its stores in El Paso, Texas, and left at least 22 dead , the nation's largest retailer is faced with how to make its workers and customers feel safe.

The discounter has long dealt with violent crimes at its stores across the country, including one that took place less than a week ago in Mississippi where a disgruntled employee killed two co-workers and wounded a police officer. In early November 2017, three customers were killed at a Walmart in Colorado in a random shooting by a lone gunman.

The El Paso store shooting, however, was the deadliest in the company's history, Walmart spokesman Randy Hargrove confirmed. No workers were killed but two are recovering from injuries.

"No retailer is immune to a violent act," Hargrove said. "That's why we take training so seriously."

Robert Moraca, vice president for loss prevention at the National Retail Federation, said he's fielded lots of calls from retailers around the country over the weekend, many of whom just wanted to go over their security protocols.

"We naturally have a heightened security awareness," he said. He noted that most retailers have active shooting training programs for workers so there's not "a lot of knee jerk reactions."

Walmart launched computer-based active shooter training in 2015 for all its employees and then in 2017, it made its workers take it on a quarterly instead of annual basis. Last month, Walmart started incorporating virtual reality technology in its active shooter training.

The training focuses on three pillars: avoid the danger, keep your distance and lastly, defend.

A heightened US-China financial war imperils global economy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Just what the fragile global economy didn't need: An unpredictable escalation in President Donald Trump's trade war with China, one that spreads the conflict to currency markets, threatens to involve other countries and raises the risk of a global recession.

At a time when growth in the United States and the world is already weakening and Trump has said he'll impose new taxes on hundreds of billions of dollars of Chinese imports, Beijing is halting purchases of U.S. farm goods and the two sides are trading punches over the value of the U.S. dollar against the Chinese yuan.

The heightened hostilities could hobble world economic growth by depressing financial markets, discouraging trade and elevating uncertainty for businesses trying to decide whether and where to situate factories, buy supplies and sell products.

When companies across the world lose confidence or certainty about global trade policies, they tend to postpone plans to invest, expand and hire. Spread across the global economy and over time, those trends can trigger a severe economic downturn.

"President Trump is playing with fire here, and recession risks are very high," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics.

Barely a month ago, Trump and President Xi Jinping had announced a truce in their rancorous dispute over allegations that Beijing steals and forces foreign companies to hand over trade secrets, unfairly subsidizes Chinese companies and engages in cyber-theft of intellectual property.

The cease-fire broke last week when Trump, professing frustration that 12 rounds of negotiations had failed to break the impasse, said he would impose tariffs Sept. 1 on the $300 billion of Chinese imports that he'd previously left untouched.

On Monday, China hit back. It revealed that it had stopped buying U.S. farm products—a severe blow to Trump supporters in rural America. Beijing's central bank also allowed the yuan to sink to an 11-year low against the dollar.

The fall of the yuan drew fire from Trump, who accused China of allowing it to give its exporters an unfair price advantage. On Monday evening, the Treasury Department declared China a currency manipulator for the first time since 1994.

The rapid-fire sequence of events "shatters confidence, trust and expectations," said Sung Won Sohn, an economist at Loyola Marymount University in California. World stock markets tumbled Monday—the Dow Jones Industrial Average lost 767 points or 2.9%—before rebounding Tuesday on signs that China was stabilizing the yuan.

Despite Tuesday's respite, the prospects for a trade deal, which appeared bright as recently as mid-May, have dimmed to near-invisibility.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

S&P	DOW	NASDAQ
2,881.77	26,029.52	7,833.27
+37.03	+311.78	+107.23
+1.30%	+1.21%	+1.39%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.49	Hong Kong Dollar	7.84	Russian Ruble	65.09
British Pound	0.82	Indian Rupee	70.25	Singapore Dollar	1.38
Canadian Dollar	1.33	Japanese Yen	106.13	South Korean Won	1,194.32
Chinese Yuan	6.92	Malaysian Ringgit	4.15	Swiss Franc	0.98
Euro	0.89	New Zealand Dollar	1.56	Taiwan Dollar	30.97
		Philippine Peso	51.28	Thailand Baht	30.72

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THD - HDX 4 SHELF STORAGE UNIT 54HX36WX14D

4SGM-COSCO ALL STEEL FOLDABLE CHAIR $21.95

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PLAID THROW PILLOW (181-4)

DALTON 5X6 BOUND RUGS ASSORTED $29.95

DEAL OF THE WEEK

SEIKI 32" HDTV $149.95

$49.95

AMAZON FIRE STICK WITH ALEXA

$599.95

VIZIO 55" 4K 2160P SMART LED TV

THD-HDX BLACK & YELLOW 5-TIER SHELF $55.95

CORDANA 30" ELM SKY VANITY COMBO $289.95

DIRT DEVIL 3-IN1 CORDLESS STICK VACUUM $149.95

5 SHELF BOOKCASE $49.95

$769.95

KENMORE 18 CU.FT. TOP MOUNT REFRIGERATOR

$37.95

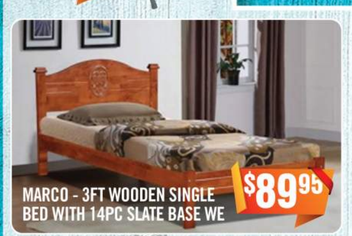
BETTER CHEF 30 CUP STAINLESS COFFEE URN

$319.95

LINON DAHLIA 5PC HIGH DINING SET

ELICO - MY GUIDING LIGHT OVER-SIZED CANVAS 47"X32" $35.95

ELICO - TEXTURED TREE OF LIFE CANVAS 40"X40" $59.95



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MARCO - 3FT WOODEN DOUBLE DECKER WITH 14PC ROLL BASE $259.95

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DAHDOUL - 4PC RUBBER CAR MATS $12.95

EVA MAT ROLL 180*200CM $18.95

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Nation

Ohio shooter said to have wrestled with dark thoughts

DAYTON, Ohio (AP)—A man who fatally gunned down nine people outside a Dayton, Ohio, bar had long wrestled with mental illness that manifested itself in a fascination with tragedy, uncontrollable urges to unleash violence and suicidal thoughts so deep he twice put a gun in his mouth, ready to pull the trigger, a woman who dated him said Tuesday.

Though her account failed to pinpoint what drove 24-year-old Connor Betts to carry out Sunday's attack, the woman who said she went out with him for a few months earlier this year offered the most detailed portrait yet of a troubled young man obsessed with the darkest of thoughts.

"I have no idea what his motivation was. I will never know," Adelia Johnson wrote in a 2,200-word recounting of the relationship she sent to reporters and posted online. "There wasn't a hate crime. He fought for equality. This wasn't a crime of passion. He didn't get passionate enough. This wasn't very premeditated. He wasn't a thorough planner."

The tone was set on their first date, she said, when Betts showed her a video of last year's Pittsburgh synagogue shooting and narrated it play-by-play. Later, he steered conversations to talk about world tragedies and his suicidal thoughts.

"He trusted me with so much of his darkness that I forgot most of it," Johnson wrote, adding that she brushed off much of what she heard. Talking about serial killers made sense as it was a theme in a Sinclair Community College psychology class they both were taking, a captivation with disaster and violence was offset by the sweetness of a "perfect gentleman," and joking about a desire to hurt others was seen as the coping tool of a man grappling with illness.

AP

Adelia Johnson, who briefly dated Connor Betts, who fatally gunned down people on Sunday in Dayton, Ohio, speaks to members of the media in Belmont Park in Dayton on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019.

Johnson said she and Betts bonded over their mental illnesses: He told her he had bipolar disorder and might also suffer from obsessive-compulsive disorder.

And she said he confided that while he loved guns, he didn't believe those with mental illnesses should be allowed to have them.

Johnson showed The Associated Press text message exchanges with Betts to corroborate their relationship. She said she didn't have any photos of them together.

Betts' high school classmates said he was once suspended for compiling lists of students he wanted to rape or kill.

El Paso opens healing center as it prepares for Trump visit

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—El Paso opened a grief center on Tuesday to help people cope with last weekend's mass shooting at a Walmart, in which 22 people, nearly all with Latino last names, were killed and many others were wounded.

Full Coverage: Shootings

The center opened a day before President Donald Trump was due to visit the border city, much to the chagrin of some Democrats and other residents who say his fiery rhetoric has fostered the kind of anti-immigrant hatred that may have motivated Saturday's attack. A protest rally was planned for Trump's arrival Wednesday that organizers said would confront white supremacy and demand gun control.

El Paso's police chief, Greg Allen, said investigators believe the suspected gunman, 21-year-old Patrick Crusius, posted an anti-immigrant screed that appeared online shortly before the attack. Crusius is being held on capital murder charges, though federal prosecutors are also considering charging Crusius with hate crimes.

Authorities on Tuesday revealed the first details of how they arrested Crusius. El Paso police spokesman Sgt. Enrique Carrillo said Crusius was driving a a Honda Civic when he stopped, got out with hands raised and surrendered to a motorcycle officer, saying he was the shooter. Carrillo said it happened about a quarter mile (300 meters) from the Walmart.

On Monday, Crusius was assigned a veteran public defender from San Antonio, Mark Stevens. Stevens didn't immediately reply to a request for comment left Tuesday.

Several of the wounded victims remained hospitalized Tuesday, including at least one who was in critical condition.

One of the wounded, Octavio Ramiro Lizarde, recalled hearing gunshots ring out as he stood in line waiting to open a bank account inside the Walmart. He said he and his 15-year-old nephew, Javier Rodriguez, tried to hide in a manager's back office.

"The shooter came, I guess he heard us. He shot him," Ramiro Lizarde said at a news conference at Del Sol Medical Center, where he has been being treated for a gunshot wound to the foot. His nephew did not survive.

FBI: California gunman had list of possible targets

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The FBI has opened a domestic terrorism investigation into the mass shooting at a California food festival after it discovered a "target list" compiled by the gunman whose relatives apologized Tuesday and said they were "horrified" by his actions.

The FBI disclosure came during a funeral mass for Keyla Salazar, a 13-year-old middle schooler who was one of three people killed on July 28 by gunman Santino William Legan during the Gilroy Garlic Festival. Thirteen others were injured.

It was the first of three mass shootings within a week that killed a total of 34 people in Gilroy, Dayton, Ohio, and El Paso, Texas. The attacks have prompted widespread calls for gun reform and heightened mental health care.

The FBI has opened domestic terrorism cases in two of the attacks.

In Gilroy, the FBI cited the 19-year-old Legan's list of targets that included religious institutions, courthouses, federal buildings and both major political parties in the U.S.

Authorities say the gunman in Texas posted a racist, anti-Hispanic screed online. The FBI has not said if it is considering the Ohio case to be domestic terrorism, even though the shooter expressed a desire to commit a mass shooting.

In California, federal investigators and Legan's family said they have not been able to come up with a motive for the festival attack.

However, John Bennett, FBI agent in charge in San Francisco, said the agency cannot rule out white nationalism as a factor.

On the day of the attack, Legan urged his Instagram followers to read a 19th century book popular with white supremacists who follow extremist websites. He also complained about overcrowding towns and paving open space to make room for "hordes" of Latinos and Silicon Valley whites.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
Rezone Application # 2019-2458

Department of Public Works (DPW)

From "Agricultural" to "Rural" Zoning district for construction of a new Kagman Residential Solid Waste Transfer Station
Lot# 004 G 43
(Kagman, fronting Gabgab Drive)

August 22, 2019
Thursday, 5:00 p.m.
Venue: Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
For more information call: 234-9661

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
Rezone Application # 2019-2112

Francisco Paul B. Roberto

From "Village Commercial" to "Mixed Commercial" Zoning district to operate an Auto Body Shop/Vehicle Repair, General
Lots# TR21863-13 & TR21863NEW-R1
(Dandan/Airport Road)

August 22, 2019
Thursday, 5:00 p.m.
Venue: Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
For more information call: 234-9661

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
for
Joy Lee Corporation
dba Green Consume Market

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Joy Lee Corporation dba Green Consume Market is proposing to construct a structure for warehouse. This use is classified as "Warehousing & General Wholesaling" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. EA 225-NEW-1 in As Lito. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2019
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 3:00 pm, August 21, 2019. Please send written comments via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

Asia

Kim says launches were warning to US, South

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea said Wednesday leader Kim Jong Un supervised a live-fire demonstration of newly developed, short-range ballistic missiles intended to send a warning to the United States and South Korea over their joint military exercises.

The official Korean Central News Agency said two missiles launched from a western airfield flew across the country and over the area surrounding the capital, Pyongyang, before accurately hitting an island target off its eastern coast.

Its four rounds of weapons demonstrations in two weeks come during a stalemate in nuclear negotiations and after President Donald Trump repeatedly dismissed the significance of the tests, even though the weapons show North Korea's ability to strike at U.S. allies South Korea and Japan and its military bases there.

AP

In this Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019, photo provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, center, visits an airfield in the western area of North Korea to watch its weapons demonstrations.

Experts say Trump's downplaying of the North's weapons displays allowed the country more room to advance its capabilities and build leverage ahead of negotiations, which could possibly resume sometime after the end of the allies' drills later this month.

Lee Sang-min, spokesman from South Korea's Unification Ministry, said North Korea's recent testing activity doesn't help efforts to stabilize peace and called for Pyongyang to uphold an inter-Korean agreement reached last year to form a joint military committee to discuss reducing military tensions. He did not provide a specific answer when asked whether Seoul believes the North's weapons display will intensify.

The KCNA said the launches early Tuesday verified the reliability and combat ability of "new-type tactical guided missiles." Kim expressed satisfaction and said the launches would send an appropriate level of warning to the military exercises between the United States and South Korea that began on Monday, the report said.

Pyongyang's official Rodong Sinmun also published photos showing what appeared to be a missile soaring from a launcher installed on a vehicle and Kim smiling and celebrating with military officials.

KCNA's report came a day after South Korea's military said it detected two early morning launches that were likely ballistic missiles.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Sri Lanka PM: Country must prepare for new terrorism phase

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lanka's prime minister on Tuesday told a parliamentary committee investigating the Islamic State-inspired Easter Sunday bomb attacks that the country should prepare itself for new types of terrorism. Existing policing, investigative agencies and laws had experience with ethnic Tamil separatists during Sri Lanka's civil war, but Sri Lanka must now deal with "a new phase of terrorism," Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe in his explanation for what the government should do following criticism that the it failed to act on intelligence from foreign agencies before the attacks that killed more than 250 people. "The terrorism we see today doesn't have a central organization, there is no need to conduct classes to recruit people. People join through web sites," he said. He added: "A team can come and attack...or it can be done by one person if he makes up his mind to drive a lorry and kill 10 people." Wickremesinghe said that he proposed to the Cabinet and obtained a report from members to draft new laws to deal with people who travel to fight in foreign wars and who have gone to terrorist training centers. The laws will be based on British laws drafted from the 2000s until now, Wickremesinghe said.

PH declares dengue outbreak a national epidemic

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippines' Department of Health on Tuesday declared the country's outbreak of dengue to be a national epidemic. The agency said Health Secretary Francisco Duque III made the declaration to improve the response to the outbreak by allowing local governments to draw on a special Quick Response Fund. It said the Philippines recorded 146,062 cases of dengue from January through July 20 this year, 98% more than the same period in 2018. It said the outbreak caused 622 deaths. Dengue is a mosquito-borne viral infection found in tropical countries worldwide. It can cause joint pain, nausea, vomiting and a rash, and can cause breathing problems, hemorrhaging and organ failure in severe cases. While there is no specific treatment for the illness, medical care to maintain a person's fluid levels is seen as critical. The Department of Health said that starting Tuesday, it was conducting a campaign to focus on finding and destroying mosquito breeding sites, which is a primary means of containing dengue. Other government agencies, local government units, schools, offices and communities will join in the effort, it said.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

3K Corporation

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. 3K Corporation is proposing to occupy an existing 1-storey structure to operate a BBQ stand. This use is classified a "Restaurant-Drive Thru" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lots No. 38-3, 38-4, & 38-5 in Dandan. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.
A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2019
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 3:00 pm, August 21, 2019. Please send written comments via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

American Huasheng Trade Corporation

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. American Huasheng Trade Corporation is proposing to occupy an existing 2-storey single family dwelling with (6) six bedroom units to operate a bed & breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 016 K 44 along Tasi Drive in DanDan. This area is zoned as Village Residential.
A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2019
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

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/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Crystal Ice & Water

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Crystal Ice & Water is proposing to occupy an existing structure to manufacture and process water and ice. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. TR 22832-4 in San Antonio. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

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Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

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/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

World

In his own words: Ex-cardinal's letters to abuse victims

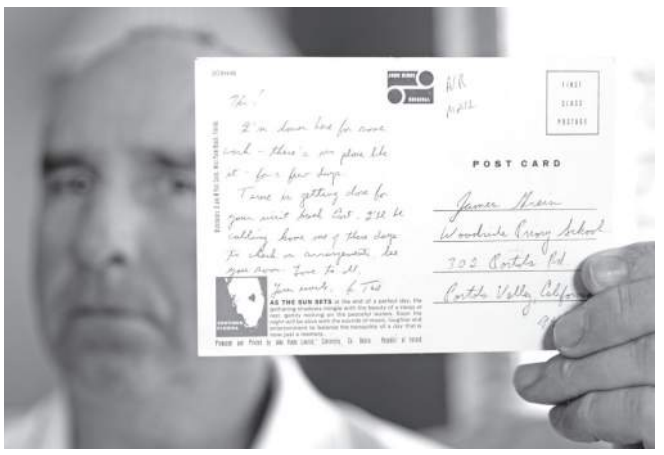
VATICAN CITY (AP)—At first glance, the handwritten postcards and letters look innocuous, even warm, sometimes signed off by "Uncle T." or "Your uncle, Father Ted."

But taken in context, the correspondence penned by disgraced ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick to the young men he is accused of sexually abusing or harassing is a window into the way a predator grooms his prey, according to two abuse prevention experts who reviewed it for The Associated Press.

Full of flattery, familiarity and boasts about his own power, the letters provide visceral evidence of how a globe-trotting bishop made young, vulnerable men feel special—and then allegedly took advantage of them.

The AP is exclusively publishing correspondence McCarrick wrote to three men ahead of the promised release of the Vatican's own report into who knew what and when about his efforts to bed would-be priests. Access to an archbishop for young men seeking to become priests "is a key piece of the grooming process here," said one of the experts, Monica Applewhite.

Pope Francis defrocked McCarrick, 89, in February after a church investigation determined he sexually abused minors as well as adult seminarians. The case has created a credibility crisis for the Catholic hierarchy , since McCarrick's misconduct was reported to some U.S. and Vatican higher-ups, but he nevertheless remained an influential cardinal until his downfall last year.



AP

James Grein, 61, at his house in Sterling, Va., Friday, July 26, 2019, holds a Florida postcard sent to him when he was 15 years old by now-defrocked Cardinal Theodore McCarrick.

McCarrick has declined to comment on his case, except to say in an initial statement last year that he was innocent but accepted the Holy See's decision to remove him from ministry. McCarrick lawyer J. Michael Ritty declined to comment on the correspondence.

The testimony of James Grein, 61, the first child McCarrick baptized, was key to the Vatican case. The son of close family friends, Grein told church investigators that McCarrick began sexually abusing him when he was 11, including during confession and at family weddings and holiday celebrations.

In an interview with AP, Grein said McCarrick's exalted place in the family over three generations created pressure on him to visit with McCarrick during weekends away from boarding school and visits when he would be molested.

"If I didn't go to see Theodore I was always going to be asked by my brothers and sisters or my dad, 'Why didn't you go see him?'"

That family dynamic is present in the postcards McCarrick sent to Grein—notes without postmarks that were included in letters McCarrick sent to his father.

"Time is getting close for your visit back east," McCarrick wrote to Grein while he was at boarding school at the Woodside Priory School in California in the 1970s. "I'll be calling home one of these days to check on arrangements." He signed the note "Love to all, Your uncle, Fr. Ted."

Applewhite said the text betrays McCarrick's clear expectations that Grein would come visit, as well as the involvement of his family in arranging the rendezvous. A postcard visible to the family, she added, is the most open form of communication, and was likely meant to show Grein that what McCarrick was doing wasn't wrong.

WORLD BRIEFS

Rejected Moscow candidates likely to lose another round

MOSCOW (AP)—A working panel of Russia's Central Elections Commission is recommending refusing the appeals of five opposition politicians who were denied spots on the ballot for the Moscow city council election, an issue that has sparked protests and mass arrests in the Russian capital. The recommendation indicates it's almost certain that the full commission will reject the appeals when it meets Wednesday. The Moscow elections commission last month refused to register 19 candidates, including several well-known opposition figures, because of alleged signature irregularities on their nominating petitions. Unsanctioned protests denouncing the decision took place in Moscow on July 27 and Aug. 3, both of which were harshly dispersed by police, who beat some demonstrators. More than 1,400 protesters were detained in the first demonstration and 1,001 in the one last Saturday, according to an arrests-monitoring group.

UN Security Council, chief condemn Cairo terror attack

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The U.N. Security Council has condemned in the strongest terms "the cowardly terrorist act" in Cairo that killed at least 20 people and injured others. Council members said in a statement Tuesday that the perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of Sunday's "reprehensible acts of terrorism" must be held accountable and brought to justice. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres also strongly condemned "the terrorist attack," U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said. A car packed with explosives being driven to carry out an attack exploded in a collision in Cairo in the deadliest attack in the Egyptian capital in over two years. The Security Council said "terrorism" threatens international peace and security and reiterated that "any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed."

Mozambique peace accord signed, paves way for elections

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Mozambique's president and the leader of the country's main opposition group signed a new peace accord Tuesday, pledging to end years of violence and facilitate elections in the fall. In signing the Peace and National Reconciliation Agreement, President Filipe Nyusi and Renamo leader Ossufo Momade said they would peacefully participate in Oct. 15 elections. Portuguese news agency Lusa said the signing ceremony in Mozambique's capital of Maputo was witnessed by five African heads of state, including South African President Cyril Ramaphosa. Thousands of Maputo residents also attended the ceremony in Peace Square, including many children wearing T-shirts printed with the phrase "Ultimate Peace." The European Union's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, and Portuguese Foreign Secretary Teresa Rebeiro were present as well. Mozambique is a former Portuguese colony that won independence in 1975. Portugal supported the peace negotiations.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

P & P Elevator Company

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. P & P Elevator Company is proposing to construct a new structure utilizing 7 (seven) 40' and 1 (one) 20' containers for its Coffee Shop. This use is classified as "Restaurant, General" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 058 D 14 in Navy Hill. This area is zoned as Rural.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2019
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-purpose Center, Susupe

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/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

SKT Company Limited

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. SKT Company Limited is proposing to occupy an existing duplex structure with (3) bedrooms per unit to operate a bed & breakfast establishment. This use is classified as "Bed & Breakfast" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lots No. 1742 NEW-11 & 1742 NEW-10 in Chalan Kiya. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

A public hearing will be held on:

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Time: 5:00 pm
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/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Sphere, Inc. dba Vietnam Home Gallery

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Sphere, Inc. dba Vietnam Home Gallery is proposing to occupy the ground floor of an existing two-storey building to operate a Flower & Floral Shop. This use is classified as "Retail Sales, Light – Flower & Floral Shop" and is permitted in the district as Conditional Use. This project is located on Lot No. 015 D 60 in China Town. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

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/s/ Mariano Taitano, Chairman

Environment

For a fragile frog population, wildfire is the latest challenge

By JOE DWORETZKY
LOS ANGELES TIMES

TNS
A California red-legged frog.

LOS ANGELES—Katy Delaney stood at the top of the canyon, below her feet a wooded glen transformed into a wasteland.

At the bottom, the walls of the canyon were green with new scrub. Above that, the crooked black fingers of tree branches burned crisp by fire dangled like claws.

Delaney pointed to an open patch of sediment at the base of the canyon. A year ago, pools of cool water gleamed under the sun and frogs basked on their banks. Now, a trickle of water lazed through the mud. And the California red-legged frog, whose fate had consumed eight years of Delaney's life, was nowhere to be seen.

The wildlife ecologist for the National Park Service and her colleagues had reintroduced the endangered frog to four sites in the Santa Monica Mountains. They kept the locations secret.

But they couldn't hide the frogs from the most destructive wildfire in Los Angeles County history.

Last year, the Woolsey fire turned the land charcoal-black and the trees into skeletons. At the fried bottom of the canyon, the pools of water filled with mud and sediment. Even if the frogs survived, they would have a hard time breeding in such a ravaged habitat.

It was one more hardship in the hard-luck story of California's official amphibian, and a personal heartbreak for Delaney, who said protecting the frogs had become "my baby."

"I put these frogs here," she said. "You know, this is my work that I spent tons of time on. … I'm very emotionally invested in them doing well."

The California red-legged frog (Rana aurora draytonii) is the largest native frog in the western United States, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The frog gets its name from the rosy tinge frequently found on its hind legs and abdomen.

Even in fiction, life has not been easy for the frog.

By most accounts, the star of Mark Twain's "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County" was a red-legged frog. In the tale, the frog lost a jumping contest after being secretly force-fed a handful of buckshot.

Once found as far north as Shasta County and as far south as Baja California, the frog's territory shrank year after year and its numbers diminished. They had the curse of tasting good. During the Gold Rush, miners "consumed nearly 80,000 of the frogs a year, nearly eating the species into extinction," according to a finding by the California Legislature in 2014.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service blames the degradation and loss of the frog's habitat on "agriculture,

urbanization, mining, overgrazing, recreation, timber harvesting, nonnative plants, impoundments, water diversions, degraded water quality, use of pesticides and introduced predators."

Then there was the American bullfrog, an invader from the East Coast that not only competed with smaller frogs, but ate them. The bullfrog also frequently carries a skin fungus that can be deadly to other amphibians.

Then in 1957, California passed a law declaring that "any person may possess any number of live frogs to use in frog-jumping contests."

In 1996, because of its diminished condition, the frog was declared a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. In 2002, Fish and Wildlife hatched a recovery plan to reintroduce the frog in 35 core habitats throughout the state, including the Santa Monica Mountains, where until 1999 the frogs had not been seen in more than 20 years.

That year, an isolated population of up to 25 adult frogs was discovered in a remote area of the Simi Hills, adjacent to the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. That population would become the foundation of efforts to restore the frog to the area.

Delaney, a cheerful, hands-on ecologist with a doctorate from UCLA, joined the National Park Service in 2010 and was soon put in charge of reintroducing the frogs.

Growing up in Romeo, Mich., a suburb of Detroit, she used to watch Jacques Cousteau documentaries on television with her father. At 11, she moved with her family to San Diego and initially decided to study marine biology. At UCLA, she spent much of her time studying birds. When the Park Service hired her nine years ago, she did not know she would be assigned to work with red-legged frogs, but she jumped at the chance.

First, she searched the mountains for appropriate sites, studying maps and surveys made of the area. She pulled on her backpack and hiked to remote locations. She looked for deep pools of water. Using a scoring sheet, she evaluated each possible site, considering whether there were predators in the water, such as crayfish.

After three years they settled on four secret sites.

In the winter of 2014, Delaney and her team went to the home of the "source population" in the Simi Hills and found several masses of fertilized eggs floating on the water. She carefully scooped up a clump of several thousand eggs. They filled her two outstretched hands, gelatinous and soft.

A team member held a net beneath her hands and a spotter watched so they didn't lose any eggs. "You have … one female's whole reproductive effort for the year in your hand," Delaney said.

She gently divided the mass into two parts. One went back into the water, the other into a plastic container that was put on ice. They did the same thing with several other egg masses, then they hiked to the first two secret reintroduction locations, where mesh pens in the shape of cubes were waiting. In the creek water for weeks, they had grown algae. The team lowered the eggs into the pens. And the wait began.

Weeks later, there were tadpoles. For the next two months, the tadpoles stayed in the pens, nibbling on the algae. When all the algae had been eaten, Delaney's team started to feed the tadpoles protein pellets and Romaine lettuce. "They don't like other lettuce," Delaney said.

Finally, the team released the tadpoles into the streams, where they scattered and faced new dangers, such as hungry newts and fish. Delaney estimated a mortality rate of up to 99%. The team hiked to the sites several times a week, trying to catch glimpses of the elusive tadpoles. Last August they spotted tiny frogs in the stream.

It was a major milestone, but it takes frogs three years to make it to breeding age. They must survive foxes, raccoons, snakes, birds and other dangers. Delaney worried like a fretful mother.

The frogs were "sort of like teenagers," she said. "They're kind of wandering around and not really paying attention."

More than a year after reintroducing frogs at the first two sites, in 2016 the team placed them at the other two. Sometimes the team would go at night to count the frogs, flashing a light into the darkness to catch the shine in their eyes. Delaney and the other team members would then try to grab the wiggly animals and tag them.

The team gave names to the pools the frogs called home. There is a Benedict Pool and a Cumberbatch Pool because of one member's fondness for the British actor. If you fell into a pool, it sometimes got named after you.

Sarah Wenner, a herpetologist pursuing her master's at UCLA, began to work with Delaney as a volunteer intern in 2017. Later, she was hired by the Park Service as a biological technician. She was in the field with the team when they found unmistakable evidence of wild breeding of frogs from the 2014 cohort — masses of eggs floating on the surface of a pool.

A team leader named it Sarah's Pool, after Wenner, who was still an unpaid volunteer. But the real joy for Wenner came when the team returned to the Park Service's offices with photos of the eggs.

She found Delaney at her desk. Instead of telling their leader what they had found, they told Delaney that there had been a problem. Look at the photos, they told her with a tone of urgency.

Two years later, Delaney still gets emotional remembering the moment.

"I started crying my eyes out."

Life & Style

World mourns...

NEW YORK (AP) — Nobel laureate Toni Morrison, a pioneer and reigning giant of modern literature whose imaginative power in "Beloved," "Song of Solomon" and other works transformed American letters by dramatizing the pursuit of freedom within the boundaries of race, has died at age 88.

Publisher Alfred A. Knopf announced that Morrison died Monday night at Montefiore Medical Center in New York. Morrison's family issued a statement through Knopf saying she died after a brief illness.

"Toni Morrison passed away peacefully last night surrounded by family and friends," the family announced. "The consummate writer who treasured the written word, whether her own, her students or others, she read voraciously and was most at home when writing."

Few authors rose in such rapid, spectacular style. She was nearly 40 when her first novel, "The Bluest Eye," was published. By her early 60s, after just six novels, she had become the first black woman to receive the Nobel literature prize, praised in 1993 by the Swedish academy for her "visionary force" and for her delving into "language itself, a language she wants to liberate" from categories of black and white. In 2012, Barack Obama awarded her a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

"Her writing was not just beautiful but meaningful — a challenge to our conscience and a call to greater empathy," Obama wrote Tuesday on his Facebook page. "She was as good a storyteller, as captivating, in person as she was on the page."

Morrison helped raise American multiculturalism to the world stage and helped uncensor her country's past, unearthing the lives of the unknown and the unwanted, those she would call "the unfree at the heart of the democratic experiment." In her novels, history — black history — was a trove of poetry, tragedy, love, adventure and good old gossip, whether in small-town Ohio in "Sula" or big-city Harlem in "Jazz." She regarded race as a social construct and through language founded the better world her characters suffered to attain. Morrison wove everything from African literature and slave folklore to the Bible and Gabriel Garcia Marquez into the most diverse, yet harmonious, of literary communities.

"Narrative has never been merely entertainment for me," she said in her Nobel lecture. "It is, I believe, one of the principal ways in which we absorb knowledge."

Winner of the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for "Beloved," she was one of the book world's most regal presences, with her expanse of graying dreadlocks; her dark, discerning eyes; and warm, theatrical voice, able to lower itself to a mysterious growl or rise to a humorous falsetto. "That handsome and perceptive lady," James Baldwin called her.

Her admirers were countless — from fellow authors, college students and working people to Obama and fellow former President Bill Clinton; to Oprah Winfrey, who idolized Morrison and helped greatly expand her readership. Morrison shared those high opinions, repeatedly labeling one of her novels, "Love," as "perfect" and rejecting the idea that artistic achievement called for quiet acceptance.

"Maya Angelou helped me without her knowing it," Morrison told The Associated Press during a 1998 interview. "When she was writing her first book, 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings,' I was an editor at Random House. She was having such a good time, and she never said, 'Who me? My little book?'

"I decided that ... winning the (Nobel) prize was fabulous," Morrison added. "Nobody was going to take that and make it into something else. I felt representational. I felt American. I felt Ohioan. I felt blacker than ever. I felt more woman than ever. I felt all of that, and put all of that together and went out and had a good time."

The second of four children of a welder and a domestic worker, Morrison was born Chloe Ardelia Wofford in Lorain, Ohio, a steel town outside of Cleveland. She was encouraged by her parents to read and to think, and was unimpressed by the white kids in her community. Recalling how she felt like an "aristocrat," Morrison believed she was smarter and took it for granted she was wiser. She was an honors student in high a school, and attended Howard University because she dreamed of life spent among black intellectuals.

Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison has died in New York, aged 88, after a brief illness. (Aug. 6)

At Howard, she spent much of her free time in the theater (she had a laugh that could easily reach the back row), later taught there and also met and married a Jamaican architect, Harold Morrison, whom she divorced in 1964. They had two children, Harold and Slade.

But although she went on to teach there, Howard disappointed her. Campus life seemed closer to a finishing school than to an institution of learning. Protesters, among them former Morrison student Stokely Carmichael, were demanding equality. Morrison wanted that, too, but wondered what kind.

"I thought they wanted to integrate for nefarious purposes," she said. "I thought they should demand money in those black schools. That was the problem — the resources, the better equipment, the better teachers, the buildings that were falling apart — not being in some high school next to some white kids."

In 1964, she answered an ad to work in the textbook division of Random House. Over the next 15 years, she would have an impact as a book editor, and as one of the few black women in publishing, that alone would have ensured her legacy. She championed emerging fiction authors such as Gayl Jones and Toni Cade Bambara, helped introduce U.S. readers to such African writers as Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka, worked on a memoir by Muhammad Ali and topical books by such activists as Angela Davis and Black Panther Huey Newton. A special project was editing "The Black Book," a collection of everything from newspaper advertisements to song lyrics that anticipated her immersion in the everyday lives of the past.

By the late '60s, she was a single mother and a determined writer who had been pushed by her future editor, Robert Gottlieb of Alfred A. Knopf, into deciding whether she'd write or edit. Seated at her kitchen table, she fleshed out a story based on a childhood memory of a black girl in Lorain — raped by her father — who desired blue eyes. She called the novel "The Bluest Eye."

Manson prosecutor: Keep them all locked up forever

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Stephen Kay was a fresh-faced prosecutor just 27 years old and three years out of law school when circumstances handed him the Charles Manson "family" murder case.

Over the next half-century, it would come to define his career and lead to death threats that to this day he worries a Manson sycophant might try to carry out.

"I don't dwell on it, but I'm careful. I always look around to see if I'm being followed or anything," the retired prosecutor said recently as he paused to discuss the case that punctured the peace, love and happiness movement that flowered in the late 1960s.

Kay helped lock up Manson family members but never really relinquished the case in his decades with the Los Angeles County district attorney's office. He attended some 60 parole hearings over the years where he argued the killers should never be released.

"The crime was simply too heinous," he said.

It was 50 years ago this week that Manson, a small-time career criminal who had reinvented himself as a hippie guru, dispatched a band of disaffected young followers on a deadly weekend rampage that would terrorize Los Angeles and forever imprint on the American consciousness the image of the slight, steely-eyed cult leader as the face of evil.

AP

This file combination of images shows the five victims slain the night of Aug. 9, 1969 at the Benedict Canyon Estate of Roman Polanski and Sharon Tate. From left, Wojciech Frykowski, Sharon Tate, Stephen Parent, Jay Sebring, and Abigail Folger.

It's been 50 years since a group of killings orchestrated by Charles Manson stunned the nation. Former Special Correspondent to The AP Linda Deutsch says the murders and subsequent trial in Los Angeles were unlike anything she covered. (Aug. 6)

On that first night, Aug. 8, 1969, Manson sent a handful of his young, mostly female followers to the palatial hilltop estate of actress Sharon Tate with orders to kill everyone there. The 26-year-old actress and four friends were bludgeoned, shot and stabbed scores of times. Their blood was used to scrawl the words "Pigs" and "Helter Skelter" on the walls.

Tate, the wife of director Roman Polanski, was 8½ months pregnant, and her killers later testified that she pleaded in her last moments for her unborn baby's life. Others killed were coffee heiress Abigail Folger, celebrity hairstylist Jay Sebring and Wojciech Frykowski, an aspiring screenwriter and friend of Polanski, who was out of town.

On the way into the estate, the attackers crossed paths with 19-year-old Steven Parent, who was leaving after visiting an acquaintance who lived in the guesthouse. Parent was shot to death.

The next night, Manson himself led a handful of followers to the home of wealthy grocer Leno LaBianca and his wife, Rosemary, tying up the couple and leaving the others to butcher them with knives.

Authorities would say later that it was part of a plot Manson hatched to persuade gullible young followers to launch a race war that only he could hide them from. He'd gotten the premonition, they said, from a twisted interpretation of the Beatles song "Helter Skelter."

Clinton impeachment is FX's next 'American Crime Story'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—The next chapter of FX's "American Crime Story" will dramatize Bill Clinton's impeachment with a focus on Monica Lewinsky, Linda Tripp and other women central to the scandal.

The miniseries will air within weeks of the 2020 presidential election.

Lewinsky, who was a White House intern when she had an affair with Clinton, will be a producer on the project, FX Networks CEO John Landgraf said in announcing the project at a Television Critics Association meeting Tuesday. Clinton initially denied the affair before admitting to it in 1998.

The series is scheduled to air on Sept. 27, 2020, about five weeks before the Nov. 3 election. Landgraf, asked whether the proximity gave the network pause, defended the timing and cautioned those who might judge the project sight unseen.

"I believe very, very strongly in what we're making. I've read it (the script), I think it's great. I don't believe it's going to determine who's the next president of the United States. I think that's a little hysterical," he said.

"American Crime Story" producers, including Ryan Murphy, have brought nuance and perspective to events dramatized in the series' previous installments, "The People v. O.J. Simpson" and "The Assassination of Gianni Versace," Landgraf said.

"I'm insistent that I'm going to support artists who want to make great art," he said, and their desire to "put it at the time and place where people are going to watch it."

In a statement to Vanity Fair magazine published online Tuesday, Lewinsky said her initial hesitation at joining the project was overcome after Murphy demonstrated "how dedicated he is to giving a voice to the marginalized in all of his brilliant work."

China bans movies, actors from prominent Taiwan film awards

BEIJING (AP)—China has banned Chinese movies and actors from participating in Taiwan's Golden Horse Awards, which are among the Asian film industry's most prestigious honors.

The one-sentence announcement on the microblog of a newspaper affiliated with government film regulator gave no reason for the suspension, but it comes amid rising tensions between the sides over Taiwan's refusal to submit to China's demand that it recognize itself as part of Chinese territory to eventually be brought under Beijing's rule.

Even without the ban, Chinese artists might have found it difficult to make it to the November ceremony. Beijing recently issued a ban on solo travel to the island beginning Sept. 1 as part of measures to inflict an economic cost on the island for its failure to obey.

Federal charges ramp up pressure on R. Kelly to make deal

CHICAGO (AP) — R. Kelly couldn't be faulted if he felt some confidence he could beat the sex charges brought by Cook County prosecutors earlier this year. He had beaten them before, winning acquittal on all counts in a 2008 child pornography trial.

Any confidence the R&B star may have felt likely melted away last month, though, when he was indicted on federal charges in New York and Chicago. Federal prosecutors secure convictions more than 90% of the time, whereas their state counterparts' conviction rate hovers around 65%, court records show.

Federal prosecutors have far more resources and face less political pressure, so they can take their time building a case until they believe it is air-tight.

"Federal charges are the major leagues. It's a completely different ballgame for Kelly now," said Phil Turner, a former assistant U.S. attorney in Chicago.

The federal charges will increase pressure on Kelly to seek a plea deal, which is what the overwhelming majority of defendants in federal cases do.

The 40 counts Kelly faces, including two state counts brought this week in Minnesota, carry a combined maximum prison sentence of more than 500 years, meaning Kelly could spend the rest of his life behind bars if he loses badly at trial. A favorable deal may be the 52-year-old singer's only chance of leaving prison before he turns 70.

Federal prosecutors likely aren't in any rush to negotiate a deal so soon after filing charges, but they might eventually be open to one. Celebrity trials can be unpredictable, so there might be a greater chance of an acquittal or a hung jury. A deal would also spare Kelly's accusers the trauma having to testify and save U.S. attorneys' offices time and money.

Bully in church choir prevents former member from rejoining

DEAR ABBY: I will soon be retiring from a lay position in my church. As a former member of the choir, I'm being urged to return to it, which appeals to me. My problem is a member who has caused trouble in the past for me with lies and criticism.

She is a very negative bully. In the past, she poisoned my ability to worship, and I want as little to do with her as possible. I'm afraid if I rejoin the choir, the situation will continue. I don't want to upset the other choir members who are good, supportive friends, but I no longer want to have to put up with her. She's very hard to ignore. Any suggestions?

SINGING A NEW TUNE IN CANADA

DEAR SINGING: If you haven't already done so, discuss this with the priest/pastor of your church. Explain how the woman's bullying and rumor spreading have affected you and ask for guidance. If she's the one sour note in the choir, it is possible she has done the same thing to others.

DEAR ABBY: My son moved in with a 22-year-old woman in 2009. She gave birth to a baby boy in 2010. My son, who is older, took on the responsibility of raising the boy. In 2018, she walked out on them both and wasn't heard from again. Through public records we found out that she had committed suicide.

My grandson is now 9. My question is, is he old enough to be told about his mother, or should my son wait until he's older, like in his teens? I'm just wondering what's the right thing to do.

RIGHT TIME IN FLORIDA

DEAR RIGHT TIME: When your grandson asks about his mother, he should be told that she is no longer living. As he begins asking for more information, his questions should be answered in an age-appropriate way. He does not need to hear that she committed suicide until he is old enough to understand what she was suffering from and how sad you and your son are that her life ended the way it did.

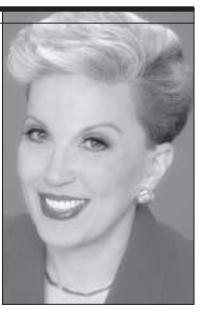
DEAR ABBY: Despite gastric bypass years ago, my wife is still very heavy. I'm no longer attracted to her, yet she is my best friend. I have thought about leaving her. Our kids are grown, so I wouldn't have to pay child support. In a few years, I will be too old to pay alimony. However, even then, because where we live is so expensive, I would likely have to move out of state. I don't want to move out of state or lose my best friend.

UNSURE IN THE WEST

DEAR UNSURE: Before making any decisions based on the assumption that you won't have to see that your wife is provided for financially, discuss this with an attorney. Because you don't want to move away or lose your best friend, you may have to accept that, despite her weight-loss surgery, your wife has serious issues with food and, BECAUSE she is your best friend, love her in spite of it. Help her as much as you can with healthy eating and an exercise routine you can do together.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



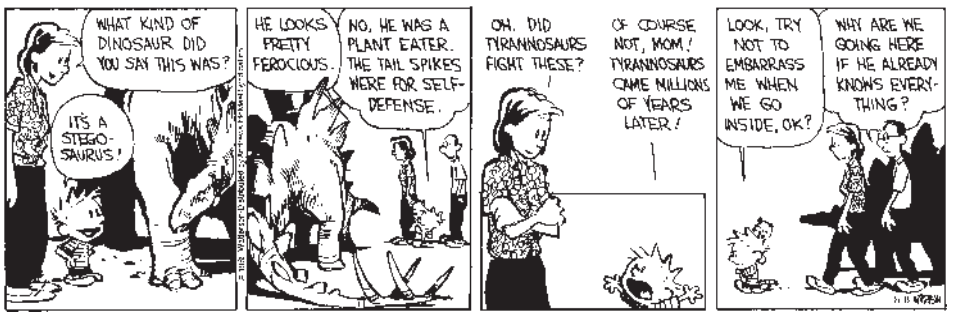
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

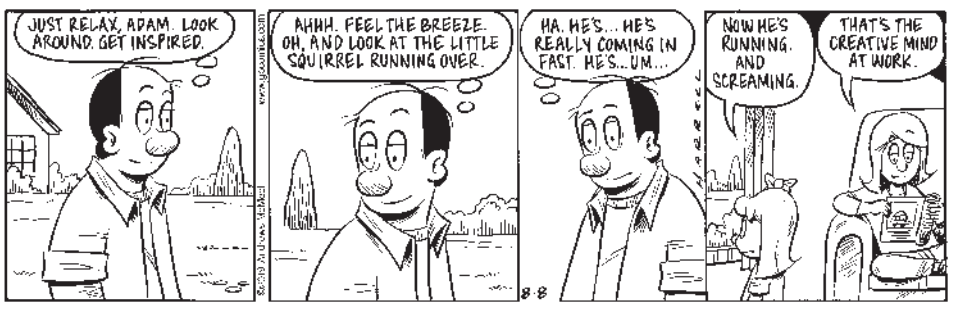

WHAT KIND OF DINOSAUR DID YOU SAY THIS WAS?
IT'S A STEGOSAURUS.
HE LOOKS PRETTY FEROCIOUS.
NO, HE WAS A PLANT EATER. THE TAIL SPIKES WERE FOR SELF-DEFENSE.
OH. DID TYRANNOSAURS FIGHT THESE?
OF COURSE NOT, MOM! TYRANNOSAURS CAME MILLIONS OF YEARS LATER!
LOOK, TRY NOT TO EMBARRASS ME WHEN WE GO INSIDE, OK?
WHY ARE WE GOING HERE IF HE ALREADY KNOWS EVERYTHING?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

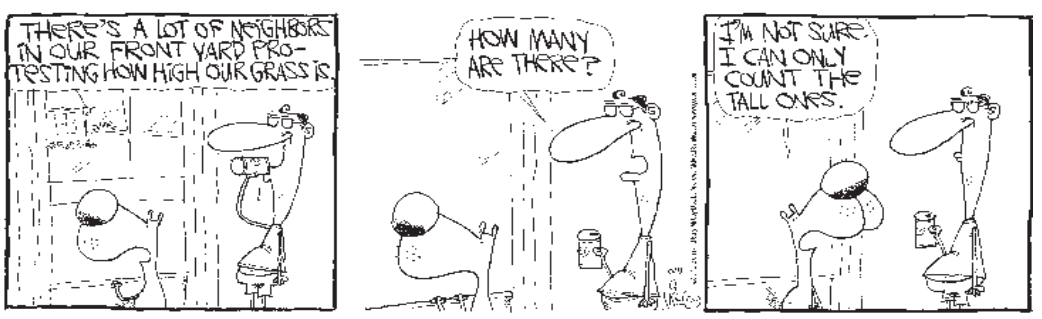
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


JUST RELAX, ADAM. LOOK AROUND. GET INSPIRED.
AHHH. FEEL THE BREEZE. OH, AND LOOK AT THE LITTLE SQUIRREL RUNNING OVER.
HA. HE'S... HE'S REALLY COMING IN FAST. HE'S... UM...
NOW HE'S RUNNING. AND SCREAMING.
THAT'S THE CREATIVE MIND AT WORK.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


THERE'S A LOT OF NEIGHBORS IN OUR FRONT YARD PROTESTING HOW HIGH OUR GRASS IS.
HOW MANY ARE THERE?
I'M NOT SURE. I CAN ONLY COUNT THE TALL ONES.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "East of Eden" girl
5 Crop-growing tract
9 Chick's mom
12 Intend
13 Cruising
14 Swiss canton
15 "This Kiss" singer
17 Pvt.'s superior
18 Pondered
19 Western resort lake
21 Hosp. triage area
22 News bulletin
24 Frost
27 Bikini top
28 Magic dragon
31 ICU hookups
32 Hankering
33 Devious
34 London district
36 Towboat
37 Feng —
38 Had aspirations
40 "Greetings!"
41 Incubator noises
43 Rug
47 Glamorous Gardner
48 Shoes that elevate
51 "Uh-huh"
52 Jai —
53 Astronauts' org.
54 Soon-to-be grads
55 Sobbed
56 Flag feature

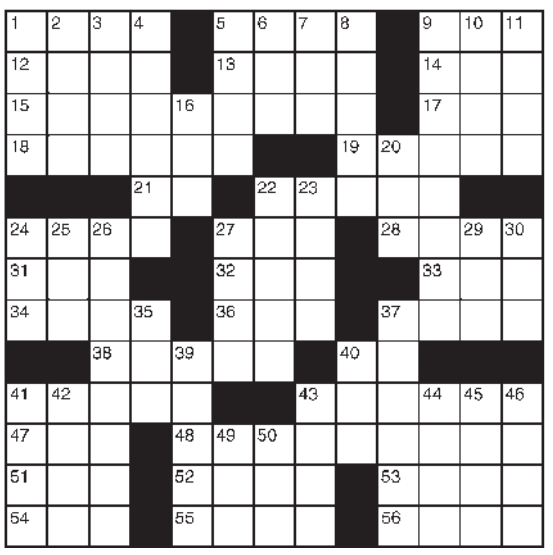
DOWN

1 Like most car radios
2 Suitor
3 Banister
4 Elk's horn
5 Saudi royal name
6 "— was saying ..."
7 Seminary subj.
8 Island south of Sicily
9 Top-secret
10 Thus
11 Evening, in an ad
16 That girl
20 Nile viper
22 Sigmund or Anna
23 Singer k.d.
24 That guy's
25 Egg (Pref.)
26 Fireplace piles
27 Memory unit
29 Winter ailment
30 Memo letters
35 "Alley —"
37 Temptresses
39 "Hogwash!"
40 Taunting laugh
41 Remits
42 Always
43 Voucher
44 Bog fuel
45 "Born Free" lioness
46 Russian ruler
49 — -de-France
50 Opening

Solution time: 24 mins.

H	E	A	R		C	O	T		A	N	K	A
A	R	L	O		R	E	O		N	O	A	M
H	A	L	L	M	A	H	K		Y	A	L	E
A	S	S	E	H	I		E	I	I	H	E	R
			X	I	I		N	O	I	S		
E	T	H		S	N	L		E	M	A	I	L
B	O	Y	O		G	O	D		E	R	S	E
B	O	O	E	S		Y	E	T		K	E	G
		E	M	T	S		S	O	O			
R	J	P	A	U	L		I	D	I	O	T	S
O	R	A	N		A	A	R	D	V	A	R	K
B	A	R	O		N	I	F		A	I	O	Y
F	I	K	S		T	O	S		N	J	N	S

Yesterday's answer 8-8



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Casey Cott, 27; Countess Vaughn, 41; Joely Collins, 47; Dustin Hoffman, 82.

Happy Birthday: Take your time, think matters through and don't worry about what others do. Broaden your horizons, and set goals that are representative of what you want. Refuse to be a follower, and don't expect others to prop you up or do things for you. Pick your destination, and rely on your attributes to make your journey a success. Your numbers are 5, 17, 21, 25, 34, 46, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Tidy up loose ends, and assess your personal and professional situations. Make choices based on what you want, not what others want you to do. You'll gain ground if you are straightforward, offer suggestions and are willing to compromise. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Change will cost financially, physically and emotionally. Think matters through before you head down a dead end. Know what you are up against before you begin. A smart move may not always be your first choice. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Offer to do only what you can. Having a big heart and being generous won't help you get ahead. Spend more time making your home life and personal relationships better. Surround yourself with people who share your interests. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Follow your dream and work hard to reach your destination. When a door closes, look for an alternate route. Be smart and articulate, and don't lose sight of what you want. Your happiness depends on what you do. ✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Don't let anger take over. If a situation isn't going your way, take a step back and rethink how to achieve your objective. Expand your interests, and you'll get a different perspective on life and what you want. ✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Check out your options. Anger will not solve problems, but thinking matters through and making adjustments that will help you achieve your objective will. Don't feel pressured; slow down, and make a strategic move. Haste makes waste. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Offer your help or services, or reconnect with someone from your past. The information you are given will help you sort out a dilemma you face financially, professionally or personally. Verify the facts, and make necessary adjustments before you proceed. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Take a closer look at your relationships with others at work and at home. Consider what you can do to improve your life, and make arrangements to follow through with your plans. Follow the path that draws you the most. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take a break if it will give you a chance to sort out what you want to do next. A physical challenge will ease stress. Love, romance, traveling and learning are all highlighted. Avoid anyone who tries to manipulate you. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* A change at home may seem taxing at first, but in the end, it will relieve a lot of stress and pressure brought on by other people, overspending and trying to please everyone but yourself. Be frank, and discuss your needs openly. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* You know what you need to do, so start the ball rolling. Take control of your destiny, and you'll achieve what you set out to do. You'll gain respect and attract positive partnerships by doing what comes naturally. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Think twice before you respond to someone who is using temptation or manipulation to get you to do something you probably shouldn't. Moderation, intelligence and associating with people who make you better should be priorities. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are creative, intense and excessive. You are emotional and impulsive.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4	8		9		6	1	
5								9
6			4		1			2
		7				9		
3								7
		6				1		
1			5		6			4
4								1
	6	9		4		2	7	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/08

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	1	5	3	9	4	6	2	8
8	9	4	5	6	2	3	1	7
6	3	2	8	1	7	5	4	9
2	5	3	6	7	8	1	9	4
9	4	6	1	2	5	8	7	3
1	8	7	9	4	3	2	6	5
4	6	8	7	3	1	9	5	2
5	7	1	2	8	9	4	3	6
3	2	9	4	5	6	7	8	1

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

AT YOUR LEISURE — Solution: 7 letters

L	D	S	T	R	O	P	S	E	I	L	I	M	A	F
Y	A	U	P	O	H	S	G	O	L	F	I	S	H	B
R	N	N	E	X	E	R	C	I	S	E	P	A	R	K
I	C	T	R	W	G	A	O	U	D	M	Y	G	O	W
C	E	A	I	U	R	A	D	I	A	B	O	O	K	S
S	I	N	G	D	O	O	R	C	O	N	C	E	R	T
S	G	S	S	O	K	J	A	D	G	H	G	U	A	L
E	C	A	U	U	Y	N	R	N	E	P	L	A	Y	I
H	L	L	M	M	O	A	I	T	T	N	N	W	G	U
C	E	Z	U	E	W	L	A	N	E	R	L	A	N	Q
R	T	E	Z	B	R	T	I	I	A	N	R	L	I	D
A	I	K	M	U	I	A	N	E	D	T	N	K	I	R
F	R	I	C	D	P	K	L	A	S	G	U	I	K	I
T	W	H	E	K	A	B	E	T	A	K	S	R	S	V
S	P	M	A	T	S	R	E	L	A	X	F	R	E	E

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Arts, Bake, Bike, Books, Camp, Canoe, Cards, Chess, Club, Concert, Cook, Crafts, Curling, Dance, Draw, Drive, Exercise, Families, Fish, Free, Game, Garden, Golf, Gym, Hike, Journal, Laugh, Learn, Lyrics, Meditate, Music, Nature, Paint, Park, Play, Puzzle, Quilt, Read, Relax, Ride, Sewing, Shop, Skate, Skiing, Sports, Stamps, Sudoku, Suntan, Swim, Tennis, Walk, Write, Yoga

Yesterday's Answer: Eating

The NEW Volume 56 can be purchased online at: www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN- $8.84to 9.33 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Compute, classify, and record numerical data to keep financial records complete. Perform any combination of routine calculating, posting, and verifying duties to obtain primary financial data for use in maintaining accounting records. May also check the accuracy of figures, calculations, and postings pertaining to business transactions recorded by other workers. Operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Check figures, postings, and documents for correct entry, mathematical accuracy, and proper codes. Comply with federal, state, and company policies, procedures, and regulations. Operate 10-key calculators, typewriters, and copy machines to perform calculations and produce documents. Receive, record, and bank cash, checks, and vouchers.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 24 months experience in bookkeeping, accounting or auditing clerk;
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter, accounting software such as QuickBooks and/or PeachTree.

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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1 Human Resources Specialist
5 Maintenance & Repair
Workers General
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All INTERESTED US CITIZEN AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS CAN EMAIL THEIR RESUME TO BETOCORP6708@GMAIL.COM OR CALL OFFICE AT 234-6708 FOR MORE INFORMATION LOCATED AT MONSIGNOR MARTINEZ KOBLERVILLE SAIPAN, MP 96950

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB19-GAR-114

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 26, 2019 TIME: 09:30 A.M.

"LEASE OF ONE (1) CLASS "F" PICK-UP TRUCK FOR THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OFFICE"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ VIRGINIA VILLAGOMEZ
GOVERNORS AUTHORIZED REP.

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR OF P&S

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF EDUARDO OCAMPO DAVID, Deceased.
) Civil Action No. 18-0465-CV
) **NOTICE OF HEARING ON AMENDED VERIFIED PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION**

TO: ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF: EDUARDO OCAMPO DAVID, DECEASED

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Amended petition of JUAN A. GACAYAN for the issuance of letters of administration of this estate will be heard before the Honorable Joseph N. Camacho, Presiding/Associate Judge, on the 5th day of September, 2019, at 10:00 a.m./p.m., at the Marianas Business Plaza, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, of any, why the order should not be made.

For further particulars, please refer to the amended Petition on file herein, or contact counsel for Petitioner, Joey P. San Nicolas, P.O. Box 10,001 PMB 602, Saipan, MP 96950; telephone (670) 234-7659 and email jpsn@sannicolaslaw.net.

Pursuant to Rule 21, NMI R. Prob. P., notice is hereby given to all creditors of the decedent, EDUARDO OCAMPO DAVID, or of his estate, that they must file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, whitin sixty (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or the claims will ne forever barred.

Dated this 6th day of August, 2019.

Patrick V. Diaz, Clerk of Court
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

KOREA TOURISM INC
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) TOUR GUIDE
JOB DUTIES
Describe tour points of interest to group members, and respond to questions, escort individuals, or groups to cruises, sightseeing tours or thru places of interest such as individual establishments, public buildings, and art galleries, conduct education activities for school for school children, monitor visitors activities, to ensure compliance with establishment or tour regulations and safety practices, provide directions and other pertinent information to visitors.

REQUIREMENTS:
- Must be high school graduate
- With at least 12 months work experience as tour guide
- With customer service oriented person
- With good moral character
- Able to read and speak in Korean language

Salary: 9.23/hr
This job opportunity is a temporary full-time position

Interested Applicants can email their resume to susupe302@gmail.com
Or fax to 233-3005
or can call office number 233-3001 for more information
From Monday to Friday between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

We have text. We have photos.
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Check out the video section of the *Saipan Tribune* website.

Subscribe to the CNMI's First Daily Newspaper for more news, value and information.

SUBSCRIBING MEANS **MORE**

Please call 235-NEWS

WHATZIT Solution: Account overdue

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a complete 5-day run of liner ads, for as low as $15 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS
- 3-Liner **$15**
- 5-Liner **$24**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

DRACULA
DUE

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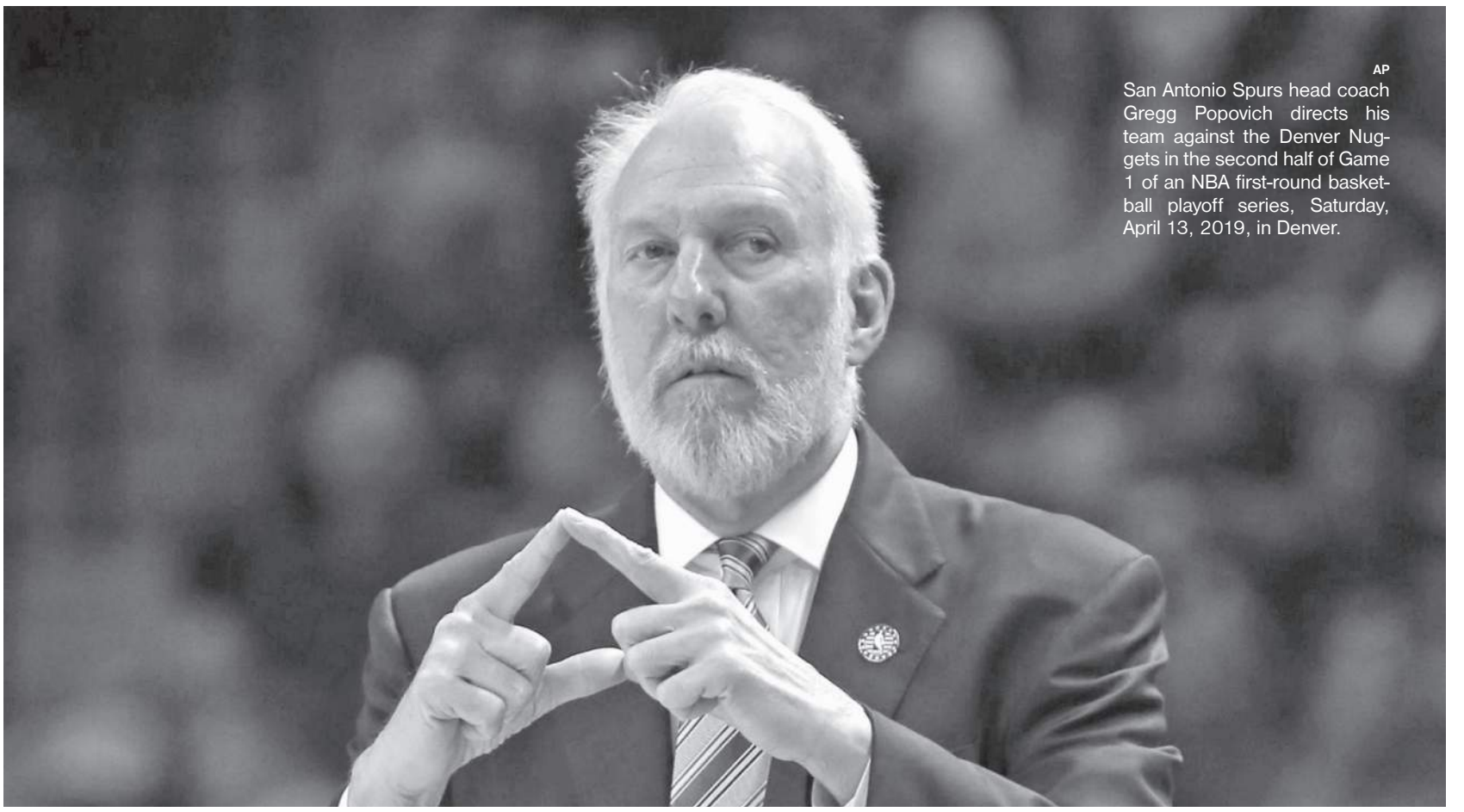
www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Popovich pressed to find team quickly



AP
San Antonio Spurs head coach Gregg Popovich directs his team against the Denver Nuggets in the second half of Game 1 of an NBA first-round basketball playoff series, Saturday, April 13, 2019, in Denver.

LAS VEGAS (AP)—USA Basketball coach Gregg Popovich typically has a month of NBA training camp and a half-dozen or so preseason games before he picks a San Antonio team, and then gets a few more months of the regular-season grind to mold those Spurs into playoff shape.

These aren't the Spurs.

These are not typical times, either.

USA Basketball will finalize its World Cup team on Aug. 17—meaning training camp, which started Monday, lasts less than two weeks. That also means there's a real urgency in this camp in Las Vegas, since Popovich and his staff won't have much time to decide who will fill the 12 spots on the roster that will head to China in search of a third consecutive World Cup title.

"We're looking for guys who are competitive, who can handle the discipline it's going to take to get this done, play a team game and basically fall in love with each other and have that empathy so that they feel responsible to each other and depend upon each other," Popovich said. "That obviously means you don't need the greatest amount of talent in the world.

"Too little talent is not a good thing, but we don't have that problem."

The biggest U.S. names—LeBron James, Kawhi Leonard, Stephen Curry, Kevin Durant, James Harden and so on—aren't playing World Cup. There are four current All-NBA players expected in the tournament, and three of them will be aiming to beat the U.S. Nikola Jokic will lead gold-medal hopeful Serbia, NBA MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo is playing for Greece, and Rudy Gobert is playing for France.

The only American All-NBA guy in the mix is Kemba Walker, who knows team building over the next few days is vital.

"On the court is pretty easy. I think we'll get that," Walker said. "Off the court is where we need to figure out, where we need to spend more time and communicate more, just have fun with each other. Like Pop said, just love each other. That's the way it has to be, because it has to translate to on-the-court if we want to do something special with this team."

Even though the U.S. roster lacks the biggest stars, there's already a clear sense of competition.

Popovich brought in the select team—the younger NBA players who were invited to Las Vegas this week to push the national-teamers and potentially compete for their jobs—into practice Tuesday, and players said the intensity of play immediately ramped skyward. There's no grace period for players to ease into camp, not with stakes this high.

"They came to play," Miami center Bam Adebayo said. "I give them respect."

It's already clear that Popovich, entering his first tournament as the U.S. coach, doesn't want the 12 best players. He wants the 12 best-fitting ones.

So the roster is still anyone's guess.

Everything that happens on the practice floor and in scrimmages will matter in terms of evaluation, of course. But there's also the off-the-court bonds that Popovich will be wanting to see, the ones forged over dinners and meetings and conversations. When the U.S. plane leaves Los Angeles for Australia next Saturday, bonds that might not currently exist will have to be firmly in place.

"It's about how the group fits together," Popovich said. "You know, 12 All-Stars probably aren't going to work great unless you have the right mix of point guards and defenders, big guys who can spread the court and shoot it. It's how they fit together."

Thompson optimistic about Warriors' title hopes

"Don't let us win this one."

Those words famously uttered by Boston Red Sox first baseman Kevin Millar prior to Game 4 of the 2004 American League Championship Series against the New York Yankees have more or less served as a rallying cry for teams down on their luck. They've also served as an edict for those on the precipice of delivering the knockout blow: Don't let them get off the mat.

That line of thinking certainly fits with 2019-20 Warriors and those looking to take them off their perch. The five-time defending Western Conference champions will enter the season still licking their wounds from their 2019 NBA Finals loss and an offseason that saw them lose Kevin Durant, DeMarcus Cousins, Andre Iguodala and Shaun Livingston, while the rest of the Western Conference got stronger.

Klay Thompson will miss at least half of the season as he continues to rehab from a torn ACL, and many believe the Dubs' hopes of reaching a sixth-straight Finals are grim.

While the outlook for next year appears bleak in terms of championship potential, the rest of the West would be wise to head Millar's advice and not give the Warriors any room to breathe. While Thompson knows the road will be hard, he believes the Warriors need a is a puncher's chance.

"The West is so stacked, not just with the Lakers and Clippers but the Jazz made great moves, the Nuggets are young and upcoming, the Blazers have an amazing backcourt, the Rockets have a two-headed monster in the backcourt with two MVPs still in their prime," Thompson said. "So it's going to be tough for us, but I assume I'm going to be on the court at some point and hopefully I'll hit the ground running and we'll be in playoff contention. That's all we need is just a shot."

Steve Kerr will have to rely on Steph Curry, Draymond Green and D'Angelo Russell to carry the load until Thompson is all systems go. But the Warriors have the championship pedigree, and undoubtedly will be motivated to prove all their doubters wrong.

While the Curry, Thompson, Green, Russell "Big Four" isn't as daunting as the one that included Durant, it's still an opponent no team will want to see in the playoffs.

Meanwhile, Kerr always is good for a solid quote, especially when it comes to his good friend, Spurs coach Gregg Popovich.

Kerr, who is coach under Popovich on Team USA for the FIBA World Cup, couldn't help himself when asked about former two-time MVP Tim Duncan joining Pop's staff in San Antonio.

"Tim's going to run the show down there," Kerr jokingly said to reporters Monday in Las Vegas. "He's already told the rest of the staff that he's the only one who's not fireable on the staff. And he's right. Pop can't fire Tim Duncan. Think about it.

"The rest of the guys are all expendable. So Time is going to walk in there, and he's probably not going to do anything. He'll probably sit on the bench and sip tea."

Kerr was coached by Popovich and teammates with Duncan for four seasons in San Antonio—1998-2001, 2002-03. He averaged 3.7 points while shooting 39.4 percent from beyond the arc as a Spur and won two titles.

LeBron blasts NCAA for new 'Rich Paul Rule' on agent criteria

As is the case with most of the NCAA's decisions, Tuesday's news of a reformed agent criteria had sports fans furious at the NCAA.

And now, LeBron James has checked in with a response.

Basically, the NCAA had announced changes to its approved agent criteria.

NBA Draft-declared players are now allowed to hire agents in an adviser role and still preserve their NCAA eligibility. That criteria included an educational requirement of a Bachelor's degree, which Rich Paul—James' agent and Klutch Sports Group founder—doesn't have.

It was a not-so-subtle attempt to shut one of the most powerful NBA agents out of the NCAA's world, and sports fans blasted the organization for that. James' response, in particular, was great. He called out the NCAA for what it is … scared.

The rule, which required a Bachelor's degree, had quickly been dubbed "The Rich Paul Rule" because there would seemingly be no other reason behind an educational requirement.

In the new NCAA agent application, agents are also required to "agree to cooperate with the NCAA in connection with its investigation and analysis of possible rules violations, even if the alleged violations are unrelated to [their] NCAA-agent certification.

For the agent to gain that NCAA approval, he or she must, among other things, have been certified by the National Basketball Players Association for at least three years, provide seven years of address history and come to Indianapolis to take an in-person test of some sort.

There's thoughts that the NCAA could be mad at Paul for what he did with Darius Bazley. The former Syracuse commit decided to forego college and the G-League for an internship with New Balance, one that pays him $1 million. The internship is also a shoe contract.

The internship, to be precise, is folded into a handsome shoe contract Bazley, 18, has landed with New Balance on the lure of his pro potential. According to Paul, Bazley's multiyear deal will pay him $1 million "no matter what happens" with his N.B.A. career—and can pay up to $14 million if he reaches all performance incentives.

Of course, the NCAA doesn't like it when they aren't able to extract outsized value from the bodies of young athletes without giving them proper compensation. That Bazley and Paul did as much—cutting the NCAA out of making money off Bazley— apparently angered them.

Positive changes in Steelers, Big Ben seen

LATROBE, Pa. (AP)—Pittsburgh Steelers tight end Vance McDonald noticed a positive change in the organization following last year's turbulent season.

McDonald also noticed a difference in quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and the chemistry surrounding the team as a whole after the Steelers missed the playoffs for the first time since 2013. Both changes have him excited for 2019.

"I think it's just an open dialogue and communication, not necessarily with (Roethlisberger), but with all guys," McDonald said. "It's not even worth waking up and going through the day mad or angry about a situation or about guys, so you put all of that into open air and let it go. It's impossible to explain, but it feels very open, free and fun."

Two-time All-Pro running back Le'Veon Bell declined to sign his $14.5 million franchise tender last year and opted to sit out his final season with the Steelers.

Wide receiver Antonio Brown, a four-time All-Pro, was benched by coach Mike Tomlin before a must-win Week 17 home game against Cincinnati. Then he spent the first two months of the offseason doing what he could to force his way out of town before he was ultimately traded to Oakland.

McDonald said he never considered Brown a distraction to the team.

"No one is perfect," McDonald said. "He's such a dynamic player, and the way he handles his business is one that's very out front and in the open. I'm not going to judge or frown upon that. I loved the guy while I played with him and I think he's the best receiver that I've ever seen."

McDonald did, however, reference team unity as a whole.

"I never wish that anyone who walks through the doors and puts on a Steeler jersey is going to say that they're more important than the man beside them, or they're more important than the team," McDonald said. "That's not the mentality that we need, and when you get too much of that, things start to crumble. I'm not saying (Brown) had that, but it's something we absolutely have to stay away from."

McDonald feels confident that Roethlisberger will have another strong season after the two-time Super Bowl winner led the NFL in passing and broke the franchise record with 34 touchdowns.

"He's the best there is," McDonald said. "I believe it when he says that he's going to be the best he's ever been this year. This is only the second camp that I've been to with him and just his whole approach and demeanor is completely different this year. I think he's ready and willing to do everything that it takes to win another championship."

McDonald played in 15 games, making 14 starts last season. He established career highs with 50 catches for 610 yards, while also tying a personal best with four touchdowns.

McDonald wants to build on that this season.

"At the end of the day, I want to do whatever it takes to win," McDonald said. "If it ends up coming my way, I'm absolutely going to accept that. If the ball finds me more this year, I'll gladly take it."

McDonald, a second-round pick in 2013, spent his first four seasons in San Francisco. The Steelers acquired the 29-year-old in a trade two weeks before the start of the 2017 regular season, and he has developed into the leader of a tight end room filled with younger talent.

McDonald looks to step into more of a leadership role on the offense this season. He also wants to help fill the void following the offseason departures of Brown and Bell.

"You never want to enter in a position where you think you arrived or hit a ceiling," McDonald said. "There's always room for improvement and training camp is a great place to dive deeper into that, not only for relationships, but also your game."

AP
Pittsburgh Steelers outside linebacker T.J. Watt makes a one-handed catch in a drill during an NFL football practice, Sunday, Aug. 4, 2019, in Pittsburgh.

Panthers to hold out Newton, Kuechly

Meanwhile, Cam Newton's return to game action will have to wait.

Panthers coach Ron Rivera said Newton and linebacker Luke Kuechly will not play in Thursday night's preseason opener against the Bears in Chicago, adding he's being extra cautious with both players.

Newton is working his way back into form after having arthroscopic surgery on his right shoulder in January, while Kuechly missed time last week after he got "rolled up on" during practice. The six-time Pro Bowl linebacker wouldn't disclose the exact nature of the injury.

The 30-year-old Newton hasn't played a game since Dec. 17 and has been held out of some team drills during training camp as trainers aim to make prevent his right shoulder from becoming fatigued.

"Everything we do with Cam has been mapped out," Rivera said Tuesday. "... So again, we just go through the next step of the process."

Kyle Allen will get the start at quarterback against the Bears, while rookie third-round draft pick Will Grier from West Virginia and Taylor Heinicke are also expected to see playing time.

"This game, there really isn't much to this one," Rivera said. "And there are a lot of things that we want to see from the young guys and by doing that we give Kyle an opportunity right off the bat."

Rivera is particularly anxious to see Allen.

The 6-foot-3, 211-pound Allen went undrafted last year, but is viewed by the Panthers staff as an intriguing prospect with the build and arm strength of an NFL quarterback.

Nelson retires after memorable run with Rodgers, Packers

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Jordy Nelson's NFL career ended in the same place where it began: Lambeau Field.

Nelson signed a one-day contract with the Packers on Tuesday and announced his retirement after 11 seasons, 10 of which he spent in Green Bay.

"I'll be remembered as a Packer," the 34-year-old wide receiver said. "Obviously I enjoyed my year last year in Oakland. But this is where I started and it's great to come back and end it that way."

Nelson was known for his speed, size and chemistry with quarterback Aaron Rodgers, who was the starter for Nelson's entire tenure in Green Bay. Rodgers' face lit up as he spoke about his former teammate, who shook hands with both Packers and Texans players following the teams' joint practice.

"Just the little things, the unspoken connection, the back-shoulder throws, the ability to throw it out to a spot and know he's going to be there," Rodgers said. "We just always had that little ability to click on the field. Excited about him in four years. I said, 'I hope I'm on the short list of guys to introduce you for the Packer Hall of Fame.'"

The pair won a Super Bowl after the 2010 season, and Nelson was a big part of the 31-25 victory over the Pittsburgh Steelers, catching nine passes for 140 yards and a touchdown that he called his most cherished memory.

"To be able to be there and have that opportunity to score a touchdown there," Nelson said. "To have that football. My son (Royal) turned 1 that week. ... I still remember being down on the field with him and my wife."

Nelson ranks third in Packers history in receptions (550), fifth in receiving yards (7,848), second in touchdown catches (69) and third in 100-yard receiving games (25). He is the only player in franchise history to record three seasons with 13-plus touchdown receptions. Nelson and Sterling Sharpe are the only Packers players to have three straight seasons with 85 catches or more.

"When him and Aaron really started getting on the whole back-shoulder thing, it was just kind of an unstoppable thing," Packers general manager Brian Gutekunst said. "They kind of would toy with opponents."

The Packers drafted Nelson in the second round in 2008 out of Kansas State. He emerged as Rodgers' favorite target in the 2011 season following that Super Bowl triumph, with 15 touchdown catches on a team that went 15-1.

"For me, keeping it simple is what did it," he said. "There wasn't much extra stuff."

Nelson missed the 2015 season with a torn ACL. He returned in 2016 and had 97 catches for 1,257 yards and a league-best 14 touchdowns, earning Comeback Player of the Year honors.

But he struggled in 2017, when Rodgers was limited to seven games because of injury, and the Packers released him in the offseason.

Nelson spent last season with the Raiders. He had 63 receptions for 739 yards and three touchdowns for a team that finished 4-12.

"There was no regret there at all," Nelson said. "Obviously the season wasn't what we wanted, but you can't ever determine that. That decision is what we made, and we definitely enjoyed it. We even debated staying an extra year there just for fun, but that place is way too expensive."

Nelson said there were teams interested in his services this season. He even visited with the Seahawks. But he said he didn't want to move his family around the country to extend his career, and he said getting his body ready for games was becoming more difficult.

Mets beat Marlins for 12th win in 13 games

NEW YORK (AP)—Zack Wheeler pitched eight efficient innings, Wilson Ramos and Pete Alonso homered, and the New York Mets beat the Miami Marlins 5-0 Tuesday night for their 12th win in 13 games.

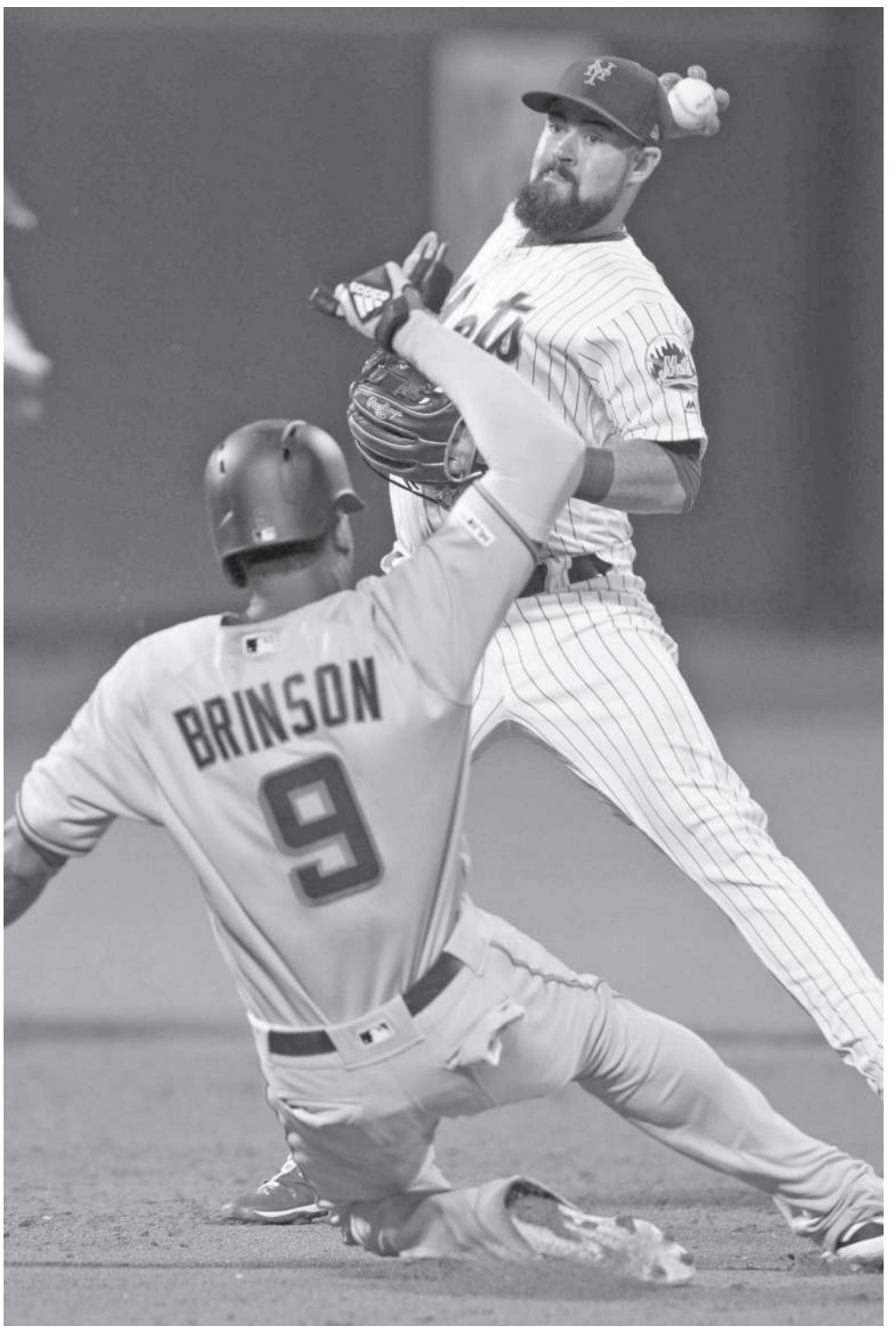
The hard-charging Mets improved to 58-56 a night after surpassing the .500 mark for the first time since early May. New York has the best record in baseball since the All-Star break and improbably entered the day 2 ½ games behind Philadelphia for an NL wild card despite looking like trade deadline sellers in mid-July.

Wheeler (9-6) cruised through eight innings on 99 pitches against the Marlins, allowing eight hits and striking out five.

Todd Frazier had an RBI double in the first inning and Ramos added a three-run shot in the third. Alonso smoked a solo shot in the fifth, his second connection in two games after going nine without one. Alonso has 36 homers for the season.

Miami right-hander Héctor Noesí (0-1) allowed five runs over five innings in his first major league appearance since 2015.

New York will try to complete a four-game sweep of the Marlins on Wednesday.



AP

Miami Marlins' Lewis Brinson (9) is forced out at second by New York Mets' Luis Guillorme during the ninth inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019, in New York. Jorge Alfaro was out at first on the game-ending double play.

White Sox 5, Tigers 3

In Detroit, José Abreu homered and drove in three runs and Dylan Cease pitched five solid innings to lift Chicago past Detroit in the first game of a doubleheader.

Welington Castillo also homered for Chicago, and Jake Rogers went deep for Detroit.

Cease (2-4) allowed two runs and seven hits, striking out six with one walk. It was his second career victory, and both have come against the Tigers, who are 10-45 since the start of June.

Three relievers finished for the White Sox. Alex Colomé allowed a run in the ninth but held on for his 22nd save in 23 chances.

Daniel Norris (3-9) allowed four runs in 5 2/3 innings.

Royals 6, Red Sox 2

In Boston, Jorge Soler hit a pair of long two-run homers over the Green Monster, Jakob Junis pitched six effective innings and Kansas City snapped a seven-game losing streak.

Ryan O'Hearn also homered for Kansas City, which had lost eight in a row to the Red Sox—its longest slump ever against Boston.

Christian Vázquez had two hits with an RBI double for Boston, which halted its eight-game losing skid a night earlier.

The Red Sox also were held without a home run, ending a club-record stretch of at least one homer in 18 straight games in Fenway Park.

Junis (7-10) escaped a couple of early jams and gave up one run on seven hits, striking out four with one walk.

Andrew Cashner (10-7) gave up six runs on seven hits— three of them homers—over 5 1/3 innings, dropping his record to 1-4 since being traded from Baltimore to the Red Sox.

Brewers 4, Pirates 3

In Pittsburgh, Yasmani Grandal had two doubles and an RBI and Milwaukee, without a resting Christian Yelich, beat Pittsburgh for its second straight win.

Grandal drove in Ryan Braun with a double to left-center, the first hit off Pirates starter Steven Brault, in the fifth inning, before scoring when Trent Grisham grounded into a double play as the Brewers moved out to a 2-0 lead.

Bryan Reynolds homered and Francisco Liriano (4-3) took the loss, for Pittsburgh, which is 4-20 since the All-Star break. Junior Guerra (4-3) picked up the win and Matt Albers earned his second save.

The day off was intended to manage a nagging back injury Yelich has been dealing with this season, manager Craig Counsell said.

Diamondbacks 8, Phillies 4

In Arizona, Andrew Chafin entered Tuesday as the National League leader in inherited run percentage and the reliever did his job in a key situation against Philadelphia.

Chafin (1-2) struck out sluggers Rhys Hoskins and Bryce Harper with the bases loaded in the sixth inning, and the Diamondbacks rallied for an 8-4 victory.

"Huge moment there," Diamondbacks manager Torey Lovullo said. "Two proven guys that are run producers. It was the right guy in the right situation that kept the score right there. Andrew's been doing that a lot for us. You feel the energy after that moment."

Eduardo Escobar and Alex Avila both homered and drove in three runs and David Peralta also homered for Arizona, which has won three of four as it fights for a National League wild-card spot.

Padres 9, Mariners 4

In Seattle, the San Diego Padres fell short of history and their first no-hitter— again. What they learned about starter Dinelson Lamet might just make up for it.

Just a month after coming off the injury list from Tommy John surgery, Lamet took a no-hitter into the seventh inning and matched his career high with 12 strikeouts in a victory over the struggling Seattle Mariners.

It was Lamet's first win in nearly two years.

"I'm happy about it," Lamet said through a translator. "I think it's not even just (the no-hit effort). I think it was the way I was able to get that win. It makes me proud."

Omar Narvaez lined a single into right field with one out in the seventh to break up Lamet's bid. The Padres, who began play in 1969, are still looking for that elusive first no-hitter.

The Mariners, meanwhile, avoided becoming the first club in the majors to be held hitless three times in a season. A pair of Los Angeles Angels pitchers teamed on a no-hitter against Seattle on July 12 and the Houston Astros combined to no-hit the Mariners last Saturday.

Dodgers 3, Cardinals 1

In Los Angeles, Clayton Kershaw continues to be not only consistent, but dominant for the Dodgers.

The left-hander struck out nine in seven innings and notched his 11th win of the season as the Dodgers defeated the St. Louis Cardinals.

Kershaw (11-2)—who allowed only one run on four hits— has gone at least six innings in all 20 starts this season. For as strong as that is, what he has done at Dodger Stadium has been even better.

The three-time NL Cy Young Award winner is unbeaten in 21 straight regular-season starts at home dating to last season, going 10-0 with a 2.28 earned run average during that span.

Astros 11, Rockies 6

In Houston, Zack Greinke labored through six innings but wound up with a win in his Astros debut as they hit four home runs to beat the Colorado Rockies 11-6.

Playing in front of a season-high crowd of 43,243, the AL West leaders won their fifth straight. Yuli Gurriel hit two homers, Yordan Alvarez added a two-run drive and Carlos Correa homered and drove in three runs.

Greinke (11-4), a six-time All-Star who was traded from Arizona on Wednesday, yielded seven hits and five runs with two walks and two strikeouts.

Nationals 5, Giants 3

In San Francisco, the Washington Nationals are back to doing all the little things that make them winners: scoring early, starting pitchers working deep into games and then turning the ball over to a now even-better, deeper bullpen.

Kurt Suzuki hit a two-run homer and RBI single during a three-hit night, Trea Turner added a solo drive to help back Anibal Sanchez, and the Nationals beat the San Francisco Giants.

"We're playing good baseball right now," said manager Dave Martinez, whose club had lost four of five and seven of 10 when it arrived in the Bay Area and now took the first two from the Giants. "I said, 'Hey, we hit a little lapse there for a minute and now we're back on track and let's keep it going.'"

Yankees 9, Orioles 4

In Baltimore, over the course of two defining games, the New York Yankees showed why they are atop the AL East and the last-place Orioles learned they're not even close to making up the difference.

One night after hitting five home runs, the Yankees went one better Tuesday against the Orioles' beleaguered pitching staff, knocking six long balls in a victory that extended their winning streak at Camden Yards to 14.

Former No. 1 pick suspended for PEDs

Major League Baseball has been suspended Tim Beckham 80 games for violating the league's Joint Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

The Seattle Mariners shortstop and former No. 1 overall draft pick tested positive for Stanozolol, a banned performance-enhancing drug.

In a statement released by the MLB Players' Association, Beckham maintained that he unknowingly took Stanozolol from a trusted source, who told him it was safe and legal to take.

"Regrettably, the product was tainted," Beckham said in the statement.

Beckham's case went to an independent arbitrator who ruled in favor of the suspension.

"I accept full responsibility for putting myself in this position," he said. "I sincerely apologize to the Mariners' organization, the fans, my teammates, and my family for this mistake. I look forward to resuming my career once my suspension has been served."

The Tampa Bay Rays drafted Beckham first overall in the 2008 draft. He debuted five years later, playing five games, before reaching the big leagues again for half a season in 2015.

Tampa Bay traded him halfway through the 2017 campaign to the Baltimore Orioles, when he totaled a career-high 22 homers. He signed with the Mariners this offseason

Spieth needs late push to play at President's Cup

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP)—Jordan Spieth made such an impressive run through the FedEx Cup playoffs in 2013 that he was selected as a captain's pick for the Presidents Cup at age 20, the youngest American to ever compete in the matches.

That began a run of six straight U.S. teams, a streak that might come to an end.

Spieth, who hasn't won since the 2017 British Open at Royal Birkdale, is No. 29 in the U.S. standings with only two events left for the top eight players to qualify. Even if he were to win The Northern Trust, he could move no higher than No. 15.

Presidents Cup points are double the value of FedEx Cup points, and playoff events are weighted the same as World Golf Championships.

Spieth isn't alone in needing to make a move.

AP

Jordan Spieth lines up his putt on the seventh hole during the final round of the RBC Heritage golf tournament at Harbour Town Golf Links on Hilton Head Island, S.C., Sunday, April 21, 2019.

Phil Mickelson has played on every U.S. team dating to the 1994 Presidents Cup—the year after Spieth, Justin Thomas and Xander Schauffele were born. Mickelson, a captain's pick in three of the last four teams (Presidents Cup and Ryder Cup), won at Pebble Beach in February but is only No. 14 in the standings.

Of the 12 players in France last year for the Ryder Cup, only five are among the top eight—Brooks Koepka, Dustin Johnson, Thomas, Webb Simpson and Bryson DeChambeau, who is at No. 7 with a 348-point lead over U.S. Open champion Gary Woodland.

Patrick Reed, who has played on the last five U.S. teams, is at No. 17.

U.S. captain Tiger Woods will make his wild-card selections after the HSBC Champions in Shanghai, which ends on Nov. 3, so there is still time for players to state their case as one of his four captain's picks.

And what about Woods?

He figured to be a lock to be the first playing captain in the Presidents Cup since Hale Irwin in the inaugural event in 1994 when Woods won the Masters, but a sparse playing schedule—just four events since the Masters, missing the cut in two of them—have left him at No. 12 with two tournaments remaining.

Meanwhile, the PGA Tour has been promoting big events every month, starting with The Players Championship in March, ending with the FedEx Cup in August, with four majors in between. It's new for everyone, and Bryon DeChambeau has found one obstacle with so much big golf.

"I can't really find time to work on the things that I would like to test and work on," DeChambeau said Tuesday.

DeChambeau, who won the opening two playoff events last year, is constantly looking to improve on what appears to be working, whether it's his swing or equipment or any of the science he applies to each.

He decided to skip last week to work on equipment in what he called "a little bit of a hard reset."

"I felt like I wasn't able to progress any further than what I was able to. I felt like I was working on my golf swing hard enough and I just wasn't seeing results," he said. "And so at that point in time, when you see that out of your game, it's like, 'OK, let's go and see how we can make some clubs that can be more beneficial to me.' And so that's what we did last week."

KANOA

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Manabat, who are set to leave Saipan on Aug. 13.

"The training camp will help our players improve their individual and team skills, as they will be working out with Tuloy coaches, too and will be playing several training matches," Kanoa FC president Merlie Tolentino said.

"The girls are looking forward for this opportunity, as they know they will learn a lot from the training camp and they will come back to Saipan with a better understanding of the sport and themselves," Villaflor said.

Besides their regular training sessions and friendly matches, Kanoa's female players will also get involved in outreach programs organized by Tuloy Foundation, a nonprofit group that takes care of underprivileged children in the Philippines by providing them with education, accommodation, and other opportunities to enrich their lives.

"The training camp will not only focus on soccer, but also about life's lessons, as we want our players to learn values through their interactions with the children at Tuloy. Through their participation in Tuloy's programs, they will experience how it feels like to serve and give back, especially to people who are in need," Tolentino added.

As for the soccer side of the camp, Itaas, one of the veterans on the squad, said the PH trip will allow her teammates to experience high-level training sessions that are somehow similar to what CNMI national team members are used to.

"The training camp is intense and is a different level compared to our usual practice sessions. There's more time to train and work on our skills and react on on different game situations since we will be playing against several Tuloy players. This will definitely push us harder," Itaas said.

Santiago, on the other hand, said the training camp will be a good opportunity to develop the team's chemistry, especially there are new players moving up to Kanoa's U16 squad—the champion of the 2019 Northern Marianas Islands Football Association Youth Spring League.

"This is a perfect chance to integrate our new and young players into our system of play and help them get familiarized with the coaches and other members of the team. Unity and chemistry are some of the important factors in the club's successes in the past several years," said Santiago.

The training camp, which will start today and ends on Aug. 28, is also timely, as the club is getting ready for the 2019 NMIFA Youth Fall League that will kick off next month. ***(PR)***

SEAN

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four wild card entries. Four players from the qualifier will complete the main draw of the singles play.

Sean is extending his stay in Fiji after suiting up for the CNMI and the North Pacific Team that played in the 2019 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships. He made it to the quarterfinals of the boys U16 singles and in the championship of the doubles event (with Jimin Woo). Carol's brother also played in the team event of the POJC.

Schorr, on the other hand, came to Fiji from Samoa where he won a silver medal (men's doubles) and gold (team event) during the XVI Pacific Games.

Schorr and the Lees' next tournament is a Grade 2 event that awards 160 world-ranking points to the singles champion and 120 to the doubles winners. Schorr has a combined 18.5 ranking points, while Sean owns two.

Carol has 415 and is the No. 1 seed in the girls division, as she won the singles championship in last year's competition. The CNMI player, who gained a gold medal (mixed doubles with Colin Sinclair) in Samoa, is currently ranked No. 118 in the world and will be defending her title against a bunch of Australian bets and players that also saw action in last month's Pacific Games.

Joining Lee in the main draw are Samoa's Eleanor Schuster, Fiji's Saoirse Breen, and the Solomon Islands' Zorika Morgan. Tahiti and New Caledonia representatives are also entered in the singles event, while some New Zealand players complete the field. Four players from the Land Down Under joined Lee on the Top 5 list.

CNMI

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ting frustrated with the referees for not calling a few fouls against Mongolia," said the team manager, adding that before the match the squad was already briefed on the anticipated physicality of the game. "Mongolia had a few more attempts against our goal, but our players held them off."

When the duel ended, emotions were still high and the coaching staff led by Luem Khen Koo had all praises to the players.

"During the team's cool down, coach Koo asked the girls why they looked frustrated when we had a good result and a good game. The girls simply answered, 'we should have won that game, coach.' As coaches, seeing the girls' mentality develop into this shows that they are hungry to win," Ito said

Prior to their meeting last Tuesday, the CNMI bowed to Mongolia (0-3) in the same event three years ago.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players and officials of the CNMI Girls U15 National Team pose for a photo after arriving at the Mokpo International Football Training Center in South Korea where they are competing in the 2019 East Asian Football Federation U15 Girls Festival

"Of course, our girls still have a long way, but if the game was streamed live, you would see how much heart was put out on the field to try to win the game—not to force a draw, but to actually win the game," Ito added. "The coaching staff is so proud of our players."

Meanwhile, the CNMI bets were scheduled to play their third straight match yesterday against the unbeaten Hong Kong, which hammered Mongolia, 7-0, and topped Guam, 3-1.

After last night's match, the CNMI will take a break today before playing two more matches against Group A teams—host Korea, Japan, China, and Chinese-Taipei. The last two assignments of the Commonwealth bets will depend on the rankings in Groups A and B. In the second round of the festivals, the No. 1 team in Group A will take on the No. 2 in Group B and vice versa, while the other pairings will be No. 3 and 4 from the two pools.

EAST ASIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION

The CNMI's Nathanett Blas, right, keeps up with Mongolia's Nergui Purevdorj during the second half of their game in the 2019 East Asian Football Federation U15 Girls Festival last Tuesday at the Mokpo International Football Training Center in South Korea.

Korea is done in the first phase of the tournament, as it won over Chinese-Taipei, 3-2, and Japan, 2-1, and lost to China, 0-2. China has a 1-1 mark (losing to Japan 0-4), pending results of its game against Chinese-Taipei yesterday. Japan was 2-1, as it got its second victory over Chinese-Taipei, 9-0. In Group B, Hong Kong is likely to finish on top, but the No. 2 to 4 rankings will be determined after last night's game between Guam and Mongolia.

Popovich pressed to find team quickly

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Mets beat Marlins for 12th win in 13 games

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CNMI players pull through

EAST ASIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION
The CNMI's Janna Casarino, left, dribbles past Mongolian defender Nomin Munkhbaatar during the first half of their game in the 2019 East Asian Football Federation U15 Girls Festival last Tuesday at the Mokpo International Football Training Center in South Korea.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI Girls U15 National Team survived an emotional and physical game against Mongolia last Tuesday in the 2019 East Asian Football Federation U15 Girls Festival at the Mokpo International Football Training Center in South Korea.

The match ended in a draw, 1-1, after Mongolia made a penalty kick off a questionable foul slapped against the CNMI in the 37th minute. Earlier in the 11th minute, Summer Manahane drew first blood, as she found the back of the net off a rebound from Kaithlyn Chavez's missed attempt.

As they tried to hang on to a shaky lead, the Commonwealth players held their ground against the aggressive plays of Mongolia, either deflecting and intercepting the ball or kicking it out of play to disrupt their opponent's momentum. The CNMI then nearly kept the advantage at halftime until a battle for the ball paved the way for a costly penalty kick.

"Mongolia penetrated through our defensive line from the right flank and our center defender tried to clear the ball out of the box, but went towards the middle area instead. With that, the CNMI and Mongolia scrambled for the ball in our penalty area. As the CNMI struggled to clear the ball out, the referee whistled and pointed at the PK spot. Not knowing how and what happened, one of the Mongolian players was down holding on to her leg," team manager Angie Ito said.

Mongolia midfielder and captain Nergui Purevdorj was the designated hitter and eventually knocked in the equalizer.

With the match tied, the opposing teams made repeated attempts to break the deadlock, but the defense of neither squad was not willing to give up.

"It was a really rough match, and our girls were get-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Sean Lee, seen here getting ready to serve during the 2019 North Pacific Regional Championships at the American Memorial Park courts, is still in Fiji and will compete in the Oceania Closed Junior Championships.

Sean, Robbie join Carol in Jr. ITF tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Robbie Schorr and Sean Lee are staying in Fiji as they are set to join Carol Lee in the Oceania Closed Junior Championships that will kick off this weekend at the International Tennis Federation Regional Training Center in Lautoka.

Schorr and Sean are in the main draw of the boys singles field, which will have its opening matches on Monday, while the qualifying tournament will be held this Saturday. The two CNMI players are on the acceptance list, together with 22 others plus

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Kanoa FC players off to training camp

Kanoa Football Club's female players left for the Philippines yesterday for a three-week training camp at the Tuloy Foundation's XO Field.

Kialeen Leemarvin, Abegail and Destinee Decena, Ericka Santiago, Hannah Santos, Kiara Manganti, Ye Leen Ha, Donna Kapileo, Therese Toves, Sharmaine Francisco, and Khristelle Itaas were joined on the trip by coach Cristy Villaflor. Paulynn Joyce and Sophia Quintos are also part of the group and will be reunited their teammates next week, as the two players are still in Mokpo, Korea playing for the CNMI Girls U15 National Team in the 2019 East Asian Football Federation U15 Girls Festival. Completing the squad are Hope and Maya McQuay, and Isabel

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Kanoa Football Club players gather for a photo at the departure area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport yesterday before they head to the Philippines for a training camp.